

Martin Luther King Jr. Week at JJC



See story on page 6

March for MLK Jr. Week ends on the bridge.

Photo courtesy of Student Activities
Graphic by Emily Gahan

Relay supports cure for cancer

By MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-Editor-in-Chief

It's never too early to plan a good deed. The Relay for Life North Will All College is April 13-14, and the American Cancer Society is asking college students to mark their calendars.

While this may seem like a while away, the relay relies on fundraising events that happen well before then. These events often require the participation of many individuals who each receive multiple small promises of donations, which adds up very quickly and of course every little bit counts, or larger sums of donations from established companies.

This is made easier because Relay for Life is a fundraising event that many people and businesses are familiar with, and are often comfortable donating towards.

The American Cancer Society sponsors these relays and invites anyone willing and able to participate in the fight against cancer.

This signature event operates on a national level and is very well recognized, but still requires the help of as many individuals as possible to be a success. At these events, participants will be able to celebrate and recognize the caregivers of cancer patients and the strong-willed survivors of the disease.

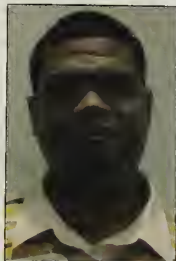
In fact, these survivors and care givers begin the opening laps of the relay. Whether you participate and just raise awareness or are able to actively raise funds, every little bit helps.

If you are interested in joining the fight against cancer feel free to follow through with the dates and contact information listed on page five.

New student trustee elected

By EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief



Keith Bryant

The one-year term of the student trustee position has begun for the newly-elected Keith Bryant. Bryant was sworn in on Nov. 13 and has been adjusting to the responsibilities that the

student trustee position entails.

After resigning from the construction industry, Bryant returned to JJC as an adult student aiming to earn a degree in information technology. He has been involved in several campus activities in the past, including Project Achieve, S.H.A.R.P., Book Club, Phi Theta Kappa and was a student leader for new student orientations.

"The fact that I am a returning student who already has a field that I am skilled in, I am fortunate enough to have gone through enough real life experiences that I can say I have grown up and recognize what it takes to be successful," Bryant said.

Bryant expressed that he never thought he would become the student trustee. But after he reached out to JJC support services, this all changed. He began to develop more educational goals

beyond obtaining a degree.

"The more involved I got, I began to build a network which led to the opportunity being presented to me," he said. "After researching what the responsibilities were and what it comprised of, in addition to reaching out to several individuals in the network that I built who have been instrumental in lending advice. That is what really inspired me to run."

Bryant has some plans about how he will reach out to the students and encourage participation, but he is still adjusting to taking on many the many responsibilities of a student leader. He expressed that he was chosen to become a student trustee rather quickly, but he is excited about the challenges of learning the ropes.

When asked about improvements he would like to see on campus, Bryant stated he would like to see

more students involved in club activities. He wishes to be visible to students and have an open connection with them so he can better serve the campus. This is one of the ways Bryant is discovering what issues need to be addressed, perhaps to the Board of Trustees.

"Being involved with support services on campus, I have been fortunate enough to observe a variety of circumstances and these are the environments where I will begin to engage with students and obtain feedback and prioritize the issues that need addressing," Bryant said.

Bryant is beginning to work with Student Government. He attends meetings to add his input on projects.

"My number one goal is to make sure that I do everything possible to represent the student body to the best of my ability," Bryant said.

EDITORIAL

What Occupy Wall Street is up to now

In the fall of 2011, a movement known as Occupy Wall Street, and eventually "The Occupy movement" began and spread worldwide. Protesters spread their discontent and anger towards an economic and political system that is unjust and unfair. Despite heavy criticism, media ignorance and heavy retaliation from government agencies such as Homeland Security and the FBI, Occupy Wall Street continued to grow. But that was 2011. Where is Occupy Wall Street and what is the movement doing now?

The original model of Occupy Wall Street with the tents and continuously protesting in one or a few spots have phased out and has morphed into a model that offers more support, community and action.

From the beginning, Occupy was spontaneous with its tent communities where anyone could receive free food, medical supplies, clothing, support, as well

as a voice in deciding what happens. After the camps were evicted by police and military agencies, many people began to think that the movement was dead.

Today, Occupy Wall Street is alive and well, and continues to build and organize communities; however, Occupy Wall Street is no longer just protesting for justice and a better world, but is creating it.

After Hurricane Sandy, the Red Cross and FEMA only helped out in a few neighborhoods with limited obligation; the state of New York and many of other states on the east coast have ignored their citizens' cry for help. Even today, many are still without access to food, clean water, heat, and safe housing. In order to rebuild their communities, Occupy Wall Street stepped in and began organizing relief.

Occupy activists along with local churches set up "hubs" where people can come get food, clothing,

and other supplies that would need; this began the current campaign and project known as "Occupy Sandy." On Thanksgiving, Occupy Wall Street served over 11,000 meals to Hurricane Sandy victims.

FEMA and the Red Cross were unwilling to go into buildings, especially those in the projects where poorer and handicapped people tend to live. Occupy volunteers helped evacuate and move residents who were disabled to shelters or deliver food and supplies on a regular basis. The National Guard began to send supplies to Occupy Sandy instead of delivering it themselves.

Occupy Sandy has also been working the last few months by reconstructing and repairing homes many of which mold is a problem.

Hurricane relief is not the only service that Occupy Wall Street is providing, but debt relief as well. Over the last few months, Occupy Wall Street has held numerous

fund-raising events to raise money in order to buy rights to distressed debt and abolish it. Occupy Wall Street has currently raised over \$550,000 which they used to abolish over \$11 million in debt; this works because Occupy Wall Street does have economic professionals, who know how to buy the rights to the debt from lenders at a lower price and then when Occupy Wall Street owns debt, they pardon the borrower from paying the debt. So next time you're struggling with medical debt or student debt, give Occupy Wall Street a call.

Other services that the Occupy Movement continues to offer is foreclosure-prevention, building community gardens and spaces, serving food to the homeless, and numerous other community-building projects. Contact your local Occupy and see what community projects that they are working on and get involved.

Don't look down: fiscal cliff woes are not over yet



BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Even if you don't usually pay attention to politics, it was nearly impossible to not hear frantic talk about the looming fiscal cliff last December. Although a "fiscal cliff" might have not been the best of metaphors to describe the dithering inaction of Congress, the media was and still is saturated with the image of an economy derailing off into a series of tax hikes and cuts to important

social programs like Social Security.

If you are still in the dark about what this fiscal crisis is about, don't worry. Not many in Washington D.C. really grasp the situation either, considering how many times Congress defaulted on a decision. Basically, a bundle of tax cuts, including those from the Bush years, were set to expire on Jan. 1. This posed several problems for tax payers who might have seen their taxes rise over \$3,000 over the course of 2013 if a new tax law was not decided on.

In the nick of time, Congress voted on a hasty deal and it was signed into law with groans from some Republicans. But what exactly does this entail? What does this tell us about how taxes are divided between income levels?

Obama proposed that income taxes increase for those raking in

over \$200,000, but this apparently was too low of a salary for some Republicans. The average salary is roughly \$50,000, which makes such claims out of touch with the general population. With this new bill, the definition of wealthy has mysteriously doubled, with individuals making \$400,000 and couples making \$450,000 facing tax increases, according to the New York Times.

Representatives from corporations like Goldman Sachs were also flocking to Congress to have their say. Note that some of these giants did not pay taxes in full last year (even though they are considered people under law). This picture is starting to not seem so promising. The corporate lobbyists were undoubtedly looking to build a Trojan horse within the new bill. The giants indeed

got what they were looking for. In the panic of averting the fiscal problem, politicians failed to notice the fine print that grants subsidies to Goldman Sachs, banks and even NASCAR. The banks received a loophole that allows some overseas lending practices to be untaxed. Poor and working class Americans are still struggling, and the tax bill failed to address any of these issues. It did not cut defense spending enough either, a sure sign that drone funding is alive and well.

And if you are breathing a sigh of relief because this fiscal problem was averted, this is not the end. Look forward to another set of tax breaks to expire this year. The tax question was really not answered at all. Instead, Congress will keep up the balancing act until it can't skim the edge anymore.

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Five common science myths corrected

BY ALEX FORGUE

Staff Writer

You eat eight spiders a year in your sleep.

The truth is that you don't. No spider would enter the mouth of a predator, especially one with bad breath, lots of teeth and that snores. This, however, is not a pardon from a fate of eating bugs; you eat hundreds of bugs a year including, but not limited to, flies, spiders and caterpillars.

The FDA allows a certain amount of bugs to be allowed in certain foods.

For example, the FDA allows 30 fly eggs for every 100 grams of pizza sauce, or if you have ever had frozen broccoli, the FDA allows 60 insect fragments per every 100 grams.

And everyone loves cinnamon, which is allowed to have 400 insect fragments for every 50 grams. So next time you see the food prices go up, think of it as an extra charge for the extra

protein that you are getting. **Evolution states humans sprang from chimpanzees.**

We constantly hear from evolution deniers that they did not come from chimpanzees; and they are correct, but misunderstand the basic concept of evolution. Darwin's theory states that we share a common ancestor and do not simply evolve from one species to the next as many like to believe.

Nor does the theory try to explain the origin of life, so evolution is not just for atheists. The theory has been observed in nature numerous times. For an example, I suggest that you look up the peppered moth. Evolution also doesn't favor the strongest organism, evolution is about the ability to adapt in order to survive. Evolution explains why you need to get a flu-shot each year because the stands of the virus are adapting.

You only use 10 percent of your brain.

The truth is that the brain has many different parts that are responsible for different tasks and we need all of it. You cannot just denote a certain percentage of your brain to a specific task or set of tasks and expect it to work; the brain doesn't work that way. If you still don't believe me, you are welcomed to try an experiment yourself. You can cut out 90 percent of your brain and see if you are still alive or remotely functional.

Humans have five senses.

Another common misconception is that humans have only five senses: sight, sound, touch, taste and smell; however, these are not the only ones we have. Close your eyes and now try to touch your left eye. How did you know where your left eye was without seeing it?

This is called proprioception, which is the ability to be able to locate your body parts. Other senses that you have would include equilibrioception (balance), thermoception (temperature), Nociception (pain) and other internal senses such as hunger and thirst. The exact number of senses that humans have varies depending on what one would consider a single sense while others may group a certain amount of abilities as one sense.

The Sun is yellow.

When we look at the sun briefly before we turn away or go blind, it appears that the sun is yellow; the sun is a star and is actually white in space. The sun appears yellow because the light is scattered by our atmosphere.

The Sun produces white light which contains all the colors. Blue and violet have the shortest wave lengths and are scattered more often

which causes the sky to appear blue. The colors with a longer wavelength such as yellow, orange and red are scattered less often, and when these left-over colors get scattered by molecules in our atmosphere, they make the Sun which is the source of the light appear orange or yellow.

This scattering is known as Rayleigh scattering. At night, the sky appears black because there is not light scattering that blocks our view into space. Another interesting fact to consider is that the Sun is 93 million miles away and it takes eight minutes for the light to travel from the Sun to the Earth; therefore we are seeing the Sun as it was eight minutes ago.

Other stars that are farther away are delayed hundreds to thousands of years so some of the stars you see at night may not even exist anymore, but their light is still traveling through space.

Columnist says:

Silence can be golden



BY AUTUMN PULVERMACHER

Staff Writer

Ever have a day where you just want to be left alone? That's how I felt today (on my day off) as I rushed off to the Laundromat to do my laundry before class tonight. So here I am, loading my clothes into the washer when I hear the voice of a woman who drives me nuts. I worked with Tanya years before at Wal-Mart and didn't much care for her or her chatter (let alone when I'm in a hurry and have some homework to finish).

You know how some people tell you their whole life story every time you see them, even when you're clearly not interested, and talk nonstop? That's Tanya, and I always run into her at the strangest places and when I don't feel like being social that day.

Like an odd penny, she always turns up. Upon seeing me she raced over and started telling me about the last year of her life at about 80 words per minute. I hurriedly started stuffing my clothes into the dryer to get away from her as quickly as possible and to my homework.

Suddenly, a thought crossed my mind: I don't have to take this! It's my day off and I need my space. So I did the impolite brush off and did my homework in peace. And you know what? It felt great! We've all been there. There's times when we need a

brief mental vacation and somebody interrupts it with mindless chatter.

The societal expectation is to grin and bear it, but why should we? Sometimes we just need some mental silence, at the movies, the store, or the Laundromat. Be mindful of others and their space. So the next time you don't want to make small talk, say hello and keep it moving. Don't feel bad. After all, sometimes silence is golden and definitely necessary.

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Professor/musician, Tom Liley, passes suddenly

Dr. Thomas Liley, a professor in the JJC fine arts department, died suddenly on Jan. 22 after a brief illness.

Dr. Liley, 64, was a professor at JJC from 1991 until his death. He taught music theory, music literature and music history, and he also provided individual instruction for students studying the woodwind instruments.

Dr. Liley traveled throughout the United States, Canada, China, Eastern Europe, Hong Kong and Thailand as a performer and lecturer. He also authored several books on topics related to the saxophone, including one in 2011 on his Indiana University mentor, internationally renowned saxophonist Eugene Rousseau. He was also involved with the North

American Saxophone Alliance for many years and was a member of its Executive Board. He served as its director of scholarly publications.

Dr. Liley was also instrumental in the creation of the Musica Viva Concert Series at JJC. He was scheduled to retire at the end of this academic school year.

Dr. Liley was a retired JJC faculty member, has agreed to take on Dr. Liley's classes for the remainder of this semester.

Dr. Liley is survived by his wife, Nancy; a daughter, Noel Harmon; and a sister, Patricia Pearce. A memorial service was held in his honor on Jan. 27 at the Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home in Naperville.



Professor Thomas Liley

Photo courtesy of Fine Arts Department

Munch discusses kabuki theater and Ukiyo-e art in Japan

BY SARAH TSCHETTER
Staff Writer

For those who missed it, Roxanne Munch, a JJC teacher in the English and world languages department, gave a lecture on Ukiyo-e art and Kabuki Theater on Jan. 22. She may have had a small audience, but she spoke proudly about the most influential works in Japanese history.

The history of these two arts forms are long and intertwined. They both began in the red light districts in Kyoto.

"If you ever wondered why we look down on theater and entertainment," Munch said, "a lot of it is rooted in prostitution." This is true in all cultures across the world.

Ukiyo-e started as cheap art that was easily manufactured of chunks of cherry wood. The subjects were usually of prostitutes, nature and common folk. It was so cheap that people began to use it as wrapping paper. It quickly evolved into posters advertising kabuki performances.

Kabuki began 1603. It was started by a woman named Izumo no Okuni.

It was banned on a few occasions for the glorification of prostitutes, and brought back with restrictions. In fact, this was during the time William Shakespeare was

producing plays with all male casts.

People would attend these shows all day, making a large event out of them. They would only eat during intermissions.

"It's like a compliment to him," said Munch, commenting on how people would shout out an actor's name.

The most popular plot in a kabuki play was the double suicide. "You'd see a lot of pain and agony," Munch said.

In 1854, Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry visited Japan. He found much enjoyment in Ukiyo-e art and kabuki theater, and he brought some of it back to America. Because of him, French and American artists and poets were the most influenced to create similar pieces of work.

Kabuki theater has influence on the JJC theater as well.

In kabuki, stagehands would dress in all black to help with quick costume changes and to change stage features. It is not that different to how JJC stagehands have changed scenes on their past performances.

Perhaps these two art forms will have further influence on JJC students this semester.

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—Maggie Gonzalez, communication major and art minor from Chicago, Illinois

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Five free tools college students can utilize

BY ALEX FORGUE

Staff Writer

GoogleLuckily for you, JJC provides access to paid databases that contain academic journals and articles to its students, but many other schools do not. You are left without these databases which are a valuable research tool that helps you find credible content easily. Google has a search engine called Google Scholar which searches academic journals across the web, allowing you to have easy access to reliable information instead of digging through the web and sorting out the good sites and the bad ones. Google Scholar will often even provide more up-to-date articles than you would find in a database paid for by the school.

Mint For most college students, especially those away from home, managing a limited budget is crucial. Mint is an online and mobile tool that allows you to track your spending as well as other financial information. It will allow you to break down what you spend into categories such as how much you spend on coffee or gas in a certain period of time and will provide advice on how you can cut back or save money. Mint will also send you reminders when payments are due or when you begin to go over your budget. Mint provides the tools in order to set financial goals and follow them.

EasyBib If you ever have had to do a research paper and did not use EasyBib, you made referencing and citing your sources way too difficult. EasyBib allows you to create and will automatically format your works-cited pages in MLA format, as well as many others, simply by filling out information about the source. EasyBib allows you to add many types of sources such as books, websites, speeches, videos and more. It will format them properly according to the source type. So if you want to save time and end the worry of incorrect formatting on your works-cited page, EasyBib is a tool that you cannot go without.

Google Drive Google Drive allows you to back-up your documents online with your Google account. Google Drive can also be an alternative to Microsoft Word. You can create word documents, spreadsheets, and PowerPoints online. Google Drive also works well for a project that requires group collaboration, all members of the group can work on a document in real time with each other and then all have the updated version of the document automatically.

Studios Studios is a free app for Android phones. Studios allows you to keep track of your classes and homework on your mobile device, as well as send you reminders to do the homework. It also allows you to set your phone to go to silent or vibrate when a class starts and automatically turn the volume back on when class is over. You just enter the class times on the app, and Studios will take care of the rest.

Relay for Life dates

Save the Dates!

2/4/13 - Kickoff 10-2pm
Raam 01010 on JJC Main
Campus

3/5/13 - Kickoff 10-2pm
Raam 01010 on JJC Main
Campus

2/21/13 - Panera Fundraising
Night 4-8pm
9505 W. 142nd St, Orland Park IL

4/13/13 - 4/14/13 RELAY FOR
LIFE

Lyons: British view of America

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Lectures sponsored by the BBC (the Brownbag Committee, that is) have begun again. This year's first lecture opened with informative and humorous commentary from history professor John Lyons about the British perspective of America. Lyons was born in London and earned his Ph.D. in history from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He has published several academic articles and encyclopedia entries, along with developing online courses. His lecture, "America in the British Imagination," is a part of a research project he is currently working on about the British view of America and vice versa.

Lyons discussed how the British see America though a few aspects, including culturally and historically. He started off by mentioning conceptions of America dating back to the Jamestown settlement. According to Lyons, the English upper

classes did not think highly of those who travelled to America because a many of the settlers were from the lower classes, fugitives or seen as heretics in England. "They comment a lot about peoples' manners. They saw America as uncultured. They saw them as materialistic," Lyons said.

Lyons indicated that many of these same prejudices that were held among the upper classes exist today. The working classes were much more positive about America. But Lyons pointed out that the British had especially substantial contact with Americans during World War II when there were over two million troops stationed in Britain.

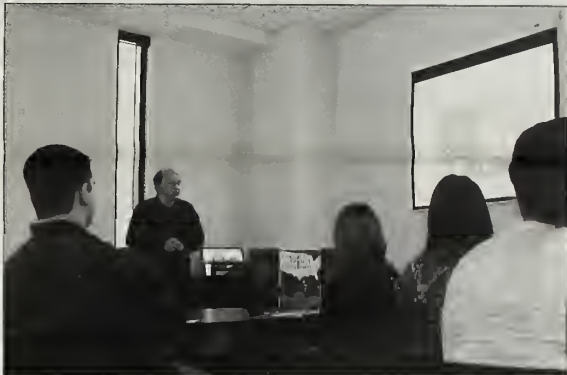
"You begin to see a positive view with Americans being seen as very friendly and very open," Lyons said. Lyons then brought a gender aspect into his lecture by saying the American soldiers were more appealing to the women than with British men. American troops were seen as exotic and could spend their money much more freely.

"They were seen as a sort of Hollywood come

to life," said Lyons. Lyons also discussed the British view on American foreign policy. The Cold War did not receive very much opposition in Britain, except among the left and younger people. However, by the time the Vietnam War began, by the time it was an immensely unpopular war.

"I think the opposition was based around knowing America was the largest military power and had the largest economy. It was going to war and people were unsure what the war was about. It didn't seem to have relevance to American aims," Lyons said. Images of the war also helped create opposition due to the brutality exposed by reporters.

Culturally, American movies and TV shows made an impression that appealed to British audiences. However, American foreign policy continued to be an issue with the British. Another Brownbag lecture proved to be a success among the audience. Look for Kimberly Turner's lecture on the Arab Spring on Feb. 27.



Bobby Kucharski, left, pays attention to professor John Lyons' Brownbag lecture on America in the British Imagination.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

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JJC celebrates MLK Week with activities

BY MIKE SCHULLER

Co-Editor-in-Chief

From Monday, Jan. 21, through Friday Jan. 25, the Office of Student Activities and Joliet Junior College presented MLK Week in honor of The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

The week was filled with presentations and events that recognized and celebrated the life and achievements of one of the nation's great civil rights pioneers and proponent of human equality in the 20th century. The week-long celebration began with the Monday holiday that celebrates King's birthday.

The first event on Tuesday was a presentation and freedom march that began in the cafeteria and proceeded through the main concourse, ending on the Bridge. Christopher Edwards, president of the collegiate club council, read the famous "I Have a Dream Speech." Later, participants were treated to pizza courtesy of JJC.

"The attendance was not fantastic, unfortunately," said Pam Dilday, director of student activities. "(But) we're going to continue to do what we do, because no matter how many students are there, we're still reaching somebody. No program with somebody in the audience is a waste of time."

The celebration, coming after the nation and the college

celebrated a long weekend, did set the tone for the rest of the events that week, however.

On Wednesday, Jan. 23, the same bridge was host to "Celebrity Squares: MLK edition" where students and faculty were invited to take a seat and join the festivities. This educational game show tested participants on their historical knowledge about the great civil rights leader, and some even found that they remembered history wrong.

"Our celebrity squares can tell (present) things that are not true and convince students they are true," Dilday said.

Two students who knew their history well enough to see past these tricks won a first place prize of a \$50 food swipe card or a second place prize of a \$25 bookstore gift card. Overall, it was a really fun and mind opening experience for everyone involved, Dilday noted.

The next day, established poet and guest Brandon Thornton, also known as Xplicit, helped host an open mic opportunity. Xplicit performed some of his own poetry and invited students to take the stage and present their poetry or spoken word.

On Friday Michael Robinson came to the main campus as a guest speaker to end the week with a presentation about the life and accomplishments of Dr. King.



Photo courtesy of Student Activities

Brandon Thornton, aka Xplicit, shared his own poetry and spoken word and facilitated the Open Mic for students to help celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Week on Jan. 24.

Black history remembered

BY MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Commentary

Black History Month, or National African American History Month, is a celebration of the achievements of African Americans. It is also in recognition of the key roles have played in the history of the United States of America in the past and continue to do into the future. Black History Month began as Negro History Week in 1926 and every U.S. president since 1976 has deemed February Black History Month.

Famous African Americans such as Martin Luther King, Frederick Douglass and Rosa Parks fill American history and ultimately enable the equality for all people in this nation. Many people ask why February was chosen for Black History Month. The answer lies with its origin as Black History Week. Historian Carter G. Woodson and prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the

Association for Negro Life and History, which sponsored the first Negro History Week.

They chose the second week in February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. This celebration grew in popularity, beginning at schools and small communities and growing through cities and states until it was finally recognized nationwide. Growing from the second week in February, the whole month was dedicated towards recognition and celebration of this facet of our country.

So how do we celebrate black history? As a community we can celebrate the pioneers of equality and all the hard-working people of the past and present. We can recognize their achievements and aspirations in almost any conceivable way. As individuals, we can take some time to learn about our own

history and learn its lessons and avoid the mistakes of the past.

We can reflect on the trials and tribulations of people who fought hard and long to bring us all to where we are today. Finally, please remember that while Black History Month is a celebration focused for African Americans, their victories are victories we all share.

Many civil rights movements have grown from and used the lessons of the past to further develop equality for all people. The fight to overcome unjust laws and prejudice is a very human endeavor, and a righteous battle to fight. We have come very far as a nation, and still have ways to go, home and abroad. So while you are celebrating the accomplished victories and recognizing those who deserve it, imagine what they would do in our time and always try to make the world a better place.

Upcoming Events

Black History Month Jubilee Africa 02/07 at 12:15pm	Crem Saunders 02/21 at 11:30am
Writing a Thesis/Topic Sentence Workshop 02/07 at 12:30pm	Nursing Information Sessions 02/21 at 01:00pm
Gallery Reception 02/07 at 07:00pm	Alzheimer's Association. Know the 10 Signs. Early Detection Matters Workshop 02/21 at 02:00pm
Transfer Lunch Bunch 02/08 at 11:00am	Student Leader Round Up 02/22 at 01:00pm
25th Anniversary Celebration of International Education 02/08 at 01:00pm	Retraining Adult Lunch Bunch 02/25 at 12:00pm
Healthy Relationships 02/11 at 12:00pm	Stress Management Life Skills Session 02/26 at 01:00pm
Public Astronomy Talk: Towards Another Pale Blue Dot 02/11 at 04:30pm	Anger Management Life Skills Session 02/26 at 02:00pm
Business Seminar Series 02/13 at 12:00pm	Healthy Relationships Life Skills Session 02/27 at 01:00pm
Business Seminar Series 02/13 at 12:00pm	Conflict Resolutions Life Skills Session 02/27 at 02:00pm
What Does Yes Mean. Understanding Sexual Assault 02/14 at 12:00pm	2013 FAFSA and Scholarship Workshops 02/27 at 04:30pm
Karaoke 02/20 at 11:00pm	25th Anniversary Celebration of International Education 02/28 at 12:00pm
Critical Writing and Thinking 02/20 at 12:00pm	Stopped by the Cops??? Life Skills Session 03/04 at 02:00pm 09:30am



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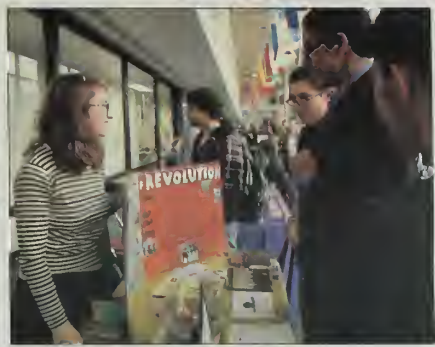
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From left, nursing students Jill, Janine, Ashley, and Melanie sell raffle tickets for a chance to win a La Scappi electric grill.



Several visitors look on as Holly Kent-Payne speaks to students interested in the Progressive Student Union.

'I've got a piece of JJC'

BY ASHLEY MURRAY

Staff Writer

As students were walking down the C concourse, they probably saw colorful balloons and the OSA staff dressed up as hippies. Mainstreet came to JJC once again, and the theme this semester was "I got a piece of JJC."

There were a variety of different clubs represented at Mainstreet this semester, along with a few new ones. Each club had attractions at its table to encourage new members to join. T-shirts and peace necklaces were given out, along with sugar cookies. Each club table had beads so students who stopped by the tables could ask for information and get a bead for their necklace.

The Comedy Club is having a comedic mystery dinner. Interservice Christian Fellowship is at it again. This club is always packed with spiritual events.

"This year, interservice might possibly have a winter jam, where students can come

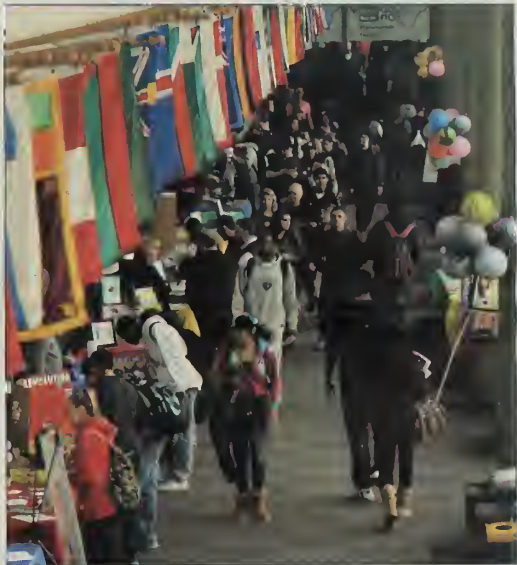
and listen to music and sing songs," Samantha Merkle said.

The Vet Tech Club has two events coming up that might interest students who enjoy helping animals. It is hosting a dog wash on April 6 and an open house on March 2. Everyone is invited to attend.

This is just a glimpse into the many events clubs were advertising about during Jan. 30 and 31. Among the new faces at Mainstreet were the Students for a Sensible Drug Policy group.

"This club is all about legalizing drugs and controversial issues that are brought up about drugs," Heather Lams said.

Student Government also attended Mainstreet and has several fundraiser plans. Above all, Mainstreet proved to be another successful way for incoming and returning students to experience what JJC has to offer and get involved in extracurricular activities.



Students walk along the C concourse during Main Street.



Students from the Latinos Unidos club pose together for a picture.



Tiffany Greninger talks with student Erica Cen (not pictured) as Rayvan Richardson signs up for information from Automotive Services Association.

Photos by: Renee Ronzone



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'Son' concludes the 'Giver' series

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

While some avid readers may be quick to pass up young adult novels because they are "too old" for the genre, think again. Even if young adult books aren't your cup of tea, those of us who remember the popular dystopian novel, "The Giver," may have a special nostalgia for Lois Lowry's work.

"The Giver," published in 1993, won a Newberry Medal for treading into new territory with teenagers as the intended audience. A glimpse into oppressive societies was previously reserved for novels like "1984" and "Brave New World." Lowry introduced a chilling and compelling narrative on free will and despotic governments for the younger crowds. This was undoubtedly controversial. Lowry's books were not always well received in school libraries.

Fans of "The Giver" might agree that the cliffhanger at the end of the novel was frustrating and vague. With the 2012 release of "Son," readers will finally be able to learn more about the world outside of the

monochrome community that Jonas, the protagonist of the "The Giver," strived to escape from. "Son" takes place at the same time as "The Giver," except a new character is introduced as the main character.

Claire is presented at the beginning of the novel as a Birthmother, which is something like a brood mare for the community that she lives in. She was assigned this position when she was twelve, along with all other twelve-year-olds in the community.

After experiencing a Cesarean section from the birth of her first child, she is reassigned as a worker at the fish hatchery at the edge of the town. Birthmothers are not supposed to know any details about the child they deliver, as they are assigned to other family units, but a doctor reveals to Claire that her child was given the number "36."

Claire becomes curious about her child and volunteers at the child care center in order to find out who number 36 is. It turns out she has a son named Gabe. Gabe has an unruly temperament and is not developing like the rest

of the kids. As it becomes apparent that Gabe will not be accepted, Claire becomes desperate to save her son.

Lowry's writing is simplistic and leaves nothing to the imagination, which might bother readers who enjoy subtle themes. While this was irritating at times, the themes of maternal sacrifice and the boundaries of good and evil are classic and compelling. As Claire journeys across the sea to find her son, we can relate to the struggle of reaching a destination or person. Lowry also ties together loose strings left behind by "The Giver."

Overall, "Son" is not a phenomenal novel, nor does it reach the standard that the "The Giver" set many years prior. However, it is an acceptable read for those who want more closure on the workings of Lowry's world, especially on the structure of societies outside of the one readers are all too familiar with. Lowry has not lost her flair, but don't expect to be surprised by carefully crafted plot twists. This novel is a short and straightforward read.



Photo courtesy of Houghton Mifflin Books for Children

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King takes reader back in time

By MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Published in November of 2011 and set in 1963, Stephen King's novel is a new take on historical events. While still a fictional novel, "11/22/63" is based in history and a good deal of research was put into it. King himself even said in 1971 when he first came up with the idea for the novel, which was before his first novel "Carrie," was published, that an idea with such historical significance required more research than he was able to do at the time.

Since then, he has worked with historians, visited historical landmarks and read many historical documents to prepare him for this venture. A novel based on the infamous JFK assassination is a departure from King's normal horror style and is attempting to reach a different audience. Showing his range as an author, King retains his ability to capture the audience and keep the pages turning.

Jacob Ebbing is the narrator and protagonist of the story.

He is a high school teacher. The owner of a diner he frequents mysteriously summons him to the back room. Inside this room is a portal that consistently leads to the same moment in time and allows him to stay there as long as he likes, and returns him only two minutes later.

Figuring out that he can change history, Ebbing begins to become

obsessed and thoroughly research the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Fully convinced the world would be a better place with the president still alive, he arms himself with this knowledge and prepares once again to dive into the past. Interestingly, the story is told by Ebbing himself, in first-person narrative. This adds an incredible amount of depth to the storytelling.

Once you immerse yourself, you can feel like it really is Ebbing telling you about his time-travelling adventure. Much like the assignment he often hands out in class, "The Day That Changed My Life," it's hard to find a more changing experience than attempting to foil a presidential assassination attempt set in the past.

Overall, I find myself a fan of King's works. It seems to me that no matter what story he's telling it's worth reading. His attention to detail and depth in every part of the novel can make one interested in almost anything. As a reader, you might even learn something about the 1960's that you didn't know in history class.

Once again, King paid very close attention to detail and everything is accurate from the appearance of the rooms and places featured in the novel and down to the price of a haircut. "11/22/63" definitely has something for those casually interested in learning a little history, but it is not too pushy about it to detract from the adventurous reading experience.

February Horoscopes



Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 19)

Please learn to swim freestyle this year. It's easier if you breathe in air when you turn your head. Don't overwhelm yourself by trying to fit in.



Pisces (Feb 20-March 20)

Don't drown in your own fishbowl. Rely on yourself instead of others and you'll be able to balance out the parts of you that swim in opposite directions.



Aries (March 21-April 19)

Since your birthday lands in the middle of rainy season, it may be a good idea to start your spring training. There is no need to strike out especially on your birthday. Control your temper this year and you'll surely gain new opportunities to display your fiery nature.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Be very, very good this year. Your patience and persistence will pay off in the end. Don't be discouraged by people who wish to push you along. Go at your own pace and you will surely find success.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You won't figure out whether you're Jekyll or Hyde this month. Your dual nature might get the best of you so try to keep yourself in balance.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Try to walk forward, not sideways, for a change. Give it a shot, dear foolish crab. We all know you are a homebody, but memories of the past might be hindering you from moving on.



Leo (July 23-Aug 22)

You were unsuccessful last month in refraining from roaring, so perhaps you should start with baby steps: This month, try to keep it down to a dull roar. Try refraining from feeling like you need to prove yourself.



Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22)

You have a talent for discriminating between what is useful and what is not. Is this observation of any use to you? You make the call. You are very level headed.



Libra (Sept 23-Oct 23)

Free yourself from the fetters of Valentine cards, roses, and the rest of the schmaltz. Offer your true, honest, passionately well-balanced self to the love of your life on the 14th. That's the best gift anyway.



Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)

If you buy one of those really big, hot cinnamon jawbreakers and suck it all the way to the end, you'll be hot to your preferred gender. And also your mouth will be on fire. But that's what makes you unique in romance.



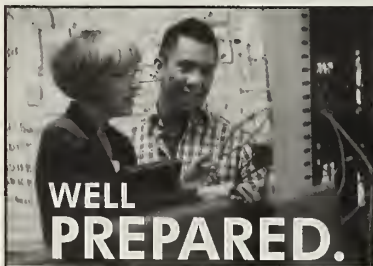
Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)

Sage? Perhaps not. It's okay to give yourself permission to be silly and foolish. But don't goof off too much or the procrastinator in you will win.



Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)

This Valentine's Day, fight your miserly tendencies by giving your sweetie two boxes of candy hearts instead of one. And no, they don't make dollar-off coupons for a 59-cent box of candy.



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Lady Wolves top Harper

BY RENEE RONZONE

Sports Writer

The Lady Wolves dropped Harper College 58-45 on Saturday, Feb. 2, breaking a two-game losing streak. Alana Warren led the Lady Wolves with 17 points and Falcon Edwards chipped in 13 in the conference win.

Prior to Saturday's win, the Lady Wolves lost Wednesday night against DuPage's Lady Chaparrals. They struggled in the 66-38 loss.

After splitting the two games last week, the Lady Wolves' record now stands at 9-14 for the season.

The Lady Chaparrals quickly pulled ahead following the tip-off on Wednesday, scoring four points before the Lady Wolves nearly closed the gap. By ten minutes in, the score was 15-6, a lead that the Chaparrals would keep for the rest of the game.

From the number of fouls, it was obvious that the Lady Wolves were not going to go down without putting up a fight. By the end of the first half, JJC had nine fouls for DuPage's two.

Giving up so many foul shots to DuPage helped the Lady Chaparrals pull ahead even further, though they did not make every free throw. In the second half, DuPage led with fouls

until the end of the game, where both teams had five fouls each.

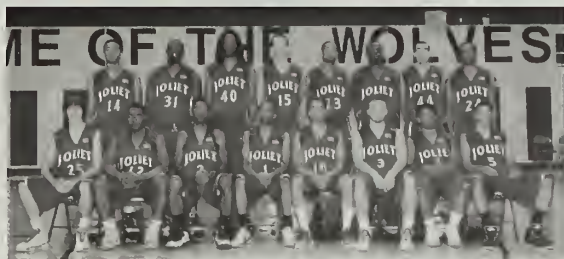
The second half of the game began with one of many three-point shots by the Lady Chaparrals, an impressive feat that their players kept pulling off with ease which only helped cement their lead. This victory marks the fifth win in a row for the Lady Chaparrals, with a record of 15-6 for this season.

At one point, JJC's Jameka Evans took a hard fall after attempting to secure a rebound, and looked winded for the remaining nine minutes of the first half. She emerged at the start of the second half looking mostly recovered but did not play at the level she had before.

Lady Wolves' Briana McCurdy closely guarded the lady Chaparral's point guard throughout the game, and did an excellent job bringing the ball down court for the Lady Wolves.

However, the Lady Chaparrals defense was too much for the Lady Wolves, resulting in the final score of 66-38. DuPage coach Cris Cotton praised his team's effort, saying they played at a "110 percent."

The next home game for the Lady Wolves is on Feb. 12 against Kankakee Community College Lady Cavaliers who have a season record of 11-11. Tip-off is at 5:30 p.m.



Spring 2013 Sports Schedule

Men's Basketball

Date/Time	College	Home/Away
February 6 @ 7:30 p.m.	Madison College	Away
February 9 @ 3:00 p.m.	Triton College	Away
February 13 @ 7:00 p.m.	Milwaukee Area Tech. College	Home
February 16 @ 7:00 p.m.	Wilbur Wright College	Home
February 20 @ 7:30 p.m.	Rock Valley College	Away
February 23 @ 7:00 p.m.	College of Dupage	Away
March 2 @ TBA	Region Semi-Finals	Harper
March 3 @ TBA	Region Semi-Finals	Harper

Women's Basketball

Date/Time	College	Home/Away
February 6 @ 5:30 p.m.	Madison College	Away
February 9 @ 1:00 p.m.	Triton College	Away
February 12 @ 5:30 p.m.	Kankakee Community College	Home
February 13 @ 5:00 p.m.	Milwaukee Area Tech College	Home
February 16 @ 5:00 p.m.	Wilbur Wright College	Home
February 20 @ 5:00 p.m.	Rock Valley College	Away
February 23 @ 5:00 p.m.	College of Dupage	Away
March 2 @ TBA	Region IV Semi-Finals	Harper
March 3 @ TBA	Region IV Semi-Finals	Harper



Photo by Renee Ronzone

Briana McCurdy, right, plays tough defense against the College of Dupage.



Photo by Renee Ronzone

Lady Wolves Briana McCurdy, foreground, Jameka Evans, left, and Alana Warren pressure the ball against the College of Dupage.

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SPORTS



Photo by Renee Romzone



Photo by Renee Romzone

JJC Wolves beat the DuPage Chaparrals 62-52 on Jan. 30.

Antwan Hill, 2, Edward Richardson, 35, and Pierre Jolly, 23, go after a rebound.

Men's basketball

After slow start, Wolves on a roll

By TOMMY STOKKE

Sports Editor

The JJC Wolves men's basketball team dropped to 5-5 on the year following a 76-64 loss to Moraine Valley on Dec. 6.

Coach Joe Kuhn was obviously displeased.

"We are a very inconsistent team and will remain one until we execute basic fundamentals necessary to play winning basketball," he said following the game.

The Wolves have rattled off nine wins in a row, improving their overall record to 16-8, including an unblemished 8-0 conference record. The most recent win was over Harper, 83-79, on Feb. 2.

The streak started with a win over Purdue Calumet JV, before a 78-69 win over Harper started the N4C Express for Kuhn's squad. More impressive was the Wolves next victory—an 84-36 rout of

Madison College. Pierre Jolly kept up his torrid pace with 21 points and a team effort that had Kuhn raving.

"I really liked our approach to this game and thought the guys were very focused," Kuhn said. "Our defensive effort and ball movement was outstanding today."

A four point victory over Triton paved the way for momentum—and defense—to take over.

Milwaukee Area Technical College mustered just 54 points, as Jolly's 15 points paced a 67-54 win. Wilbur Wright made it to 67, but still lost by double digits 79-67. Despite the victory, Kuhn wasn't impressed.

"This was certainly not a pretty game but it is a conference road win," he said. "I didn't think our defensive intensity was very good tonight and we will have to be

much better Saturday against a good Rock Valley team."

Edward Richardson poured in 17 points as JJC took down Rock Valley 73-60 before the suffocating defense held College of DuPage to just 52 points in a 62-52 conference victory—the fourth consecutive double-digit victory. It's even more impressive knowing the Wolves failed to make a three while attempting eight, contrary to the 7-for-29 the Wolves posted the game before.

With the win over Harper, the Wolves are riding their hot streak down the final stretch of conference play. Madison awaits on Wednesday, Feb. 6, looking to make up for the 48-point loss earlier this season. After that, just five games remain in regular season play.

That JJC defense currently holds

opponents to the lowest three-point percentage in the nation, as foes are shooting just 24 percent from behind the arc.

Jolly continues to lead the charge with 18 points ago, while Richardson has emerged as a secondary option with 13 points per game in just eight games this season. Jolly does it on the glass as well with seven rebounds a game. Lone returner Ben Daniel scores 10 points a game.

A nine-game winning streak and an undefeated conference record isn't enough to keep Kuhn satisfied.

"We continue to get better, but still have a ways to go," he said.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

By TOMMY STOKKE

Men's basketball player Pierre Jolly is the Male Athlete of the Issue. Jolly has led the Wolves in scoring all season at 18 points a game, but has been especially important lately. The Wolves are in the midst of a nine-game winning streak. Jolly, a sophomore, led the team in scoring in six of the nine games. He also leads the team in rebounding.



Pierre Jolly

Alana Warren is the Female Athlete of the Issue. Warren, the sophomore basketball player, averages 15 points a game for the Lady Wolves, who sit at 5-2 in N4C play. She leads the team in points, rebounds and assists. Against No. 1 Rock Valley, Warren tallied 20 points. It was her sixth 20-point game this season.



Alana Warren

Towards Another Pale Blue Dot

A Lecture by Jacob Bean, Ph.D.

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Graphic by Renee Ronzone

Art gallery
opens new
exhibition

BY LORENZO JACKSON

Copy Editor

The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off of your soul, as Pablo Picasso so eloquently put it. The Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery is located on the first floor of J-Building (J-1004) open from 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Admission is free and the art is spectacular. Guest speakers are scheduled throughout this spring semester waiting for inquiring eyes to enter the doors and taste the Chicago culture within these JJC walls.

This art exhibition includes oil-based paintings, mixed media, acrylic, wood, monoprint, digital, pastel, graphic and any other media you would not think could be

See ARTS on page 6

JJC's Musica Viva thrills local church audience

BY SARAH TSCHETTER

Staff Writer

People jogged off the streets and ducked into St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Joliet, on 416 N. Chicago St., to attend Musica Viva, Magnificent Metal III: Music for Brass and Organ on Feb. 10. The tone of the faculty recital was immediately set by the pillars painted to look like marble and the biblical stained glass windows. The recital was held in memory of the late Dr. Thomas Liley.

St. Joseph's is a historical building and it is currently undergoing repairs. These repairs interfered with a section of the organ for the performance; however, it did not affect the recital in the least.

The organ was set in back on a balcony overlooking the sanctuary. While the first song was performed by the brass quintet, the rest of the concert was not seen but heard by the attendees.

The songs that were performed were a collection of

baroque, classical and romantic pieces. They seemed to suit the environment in which they were performed.

Charles Morgan conducted the late afternoon's program, as well as performed on his trombone. He was joined by

Philip Spencer on the organ, Jeff McMillin and Lauren LeMahieu on the trumpet. Rich Blaha performed on the french horn, John Cryder on the tuba and Dr. Tracy Ford for soprano vocals in a few songs.

"Two Pavans" composed by

Melchior Frank and arranged by Robert King started the recital off. It was a haunting melody, which echoed off the high, arched ceiling and ended with a majestic feel.

The songs that followed were beautiful and full of fanfare.

One song even startled a few audience members when it began, much to the amusement several other attendees.

After the intermission, Spencer did an improvisation of two songs that audience members submitted during the break.

The two songs were "Amazing Grace" and "Happy Birthday," in honor of Ford's father, who was celebrating his birthday. The improvisation swayed back and forth between the two songs in one mass construction of something that can only be described as a striking entity.

It is not uncommon for organists to do improvisation. When the instrument was first brought into the church, musicians often had to create something to go along with the services as they went along.

The rest of the performances continued in a more dynamic form than the first part. The recital ended with a song that was just as haunting as the one that opened the evening.



Musica Viva: Dr. Tracy Ford sings as Philip Spencer plays the organ.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

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busy students

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'Dead Space 3'
a mix of horror
and sci-fi

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SPORTS

Men's basketball
heads to playoffs

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EDITORIAL

Putting an end to the drone wars



BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

The use of drones brings up a multitude of Orwellian questions that cannot be set aside.

What is considered honorable on the battlefield if drones are carrying out the dirty work? Is the person sitting behind the controls really deserving of medals and praise? According to "Wired," the U.S. launched 333 drone strikes in Afghanistan last year.

Even then, it is unclear how many civilian casualties have needlessly died due to drone misuse.

It happens more

frequently than you'd think. Soldiers controlling drones back at home often have little idea who they are launching missiles at.

It dehumanizes acts of war and makes killing all too convenient. "The robots go after men just because they fit a profile," Wired states. There's not many precautions against misidentifying potential terrorists, especially if you are manning a drone safely from Las Vegas.

Though the U.S., claims that civilian deaths are in the single-digits, there is evidence that this is false. According to a report by Stanford Law School and New York Law School, 881 civilian deaths have occurred since 2004. Increasing numbers of these deaths have happened during the last few years under Obama.

Even if journalists receive numbers directly from the battlefield, it is likely that the true number is much higher. But what about here at home? Recent fears have

included the possibility of drone surveillance.

Both parties have even expressed the possibility of special drone courts where the government judiciary makes decisions on executive orders to kill certain people. The constitutionality of this is questionable and the judicial system is not set up to deal with these types of decisions.

Since judges serve for life, accountability would be a huge problem. There would also be imbalance between the powers. The executive branch would hold too much sway over the courts, and this is in direct conflict with the Constitution.

This internal court would be able to execute American citizens on American soil, an audacious move in the name of paranoia over national security. Not to mention, the current ideas being kicked around do not allow much in terms of compensation for the target's family or mechanisms that allow families to challenge the

courts if an execution was in the wrong.

While these secret courts might come as a shock for some, this is nothing new. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court is made up of judges appointed by the Supreme Court who keep track of wiretapping.

Drones as a technology in itself can be used for nonviolent purposes. They are not merely the machines of war. For instance, real estate agents may use drones to take aerial shots of properties. Drones may spot missing children or objects to a point.

It's all about what we do with the abilities we hold. Drones as objects of war violate human rights, and the U.S. is doing little to make information about drones more transparent.

If money for drones were eliminated or cut back on, more money could be used for public programs that sorely need the funding.

It's time we know our priorities.

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Who do the X-Men represent?



BY ALEX FARGUE

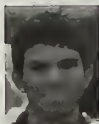
We all watched the X-Men when we were younger, and I'm sure that future generations will as well. The X-Men are however more than a bunch of super-hero mutants, they are an allegory and a metaphor

for the oppressed. The X-Men comics started in 1963 during the Civil Rights movement. In the series, the X-Men are mutated humans who have a hard time being accepted by society which parallels the struggle for blacks who are also trying to be accepted by society. Blacks, like all minorities such as women, homosexuals, and immigrants, haven't always been accepted; the X-Men underlines the message of acceptance of those that are different from us and that we need to overcome our fears and bigotries towards other

groups that differ from us. During the 1960s, Women and Blacks had to fight against the right-wing propaganda in order to achieve acceptance and equality; today homosexuals are the ones who are in need of acceptance. The X-Men have jumped on the band-wagon for gay rights. Northstar is Marvel's first-gay superhero, and is one of the first gay comic-book characters to appear in American comic books. In Astonishing X-Men #51, published on June 27, 2012, Northstar marries his boyfriend Kyle

Jinadu. The wedding is an obvious representation of today's fight for marriage equality for the homosexual community. The X-Men have a long history of being an allegory and metaphor for groups who are oppressed and ostracized with the message to overcome our bigotry and hate. In the past, they stood for women and the black community. Today, the X-Men tackle homosexual rights and Muslim acceptance, but in the future what group will they represent next?

What we lose if we lose the bees



By ALEX FORGUE

Even as you are reading this, bees are disappearing at an excessive rate. Conservatives will tell you that it's not an issue, but it is. Bees provide pollination

for over 70 percent of the crops that we grow for food. Can you imagine what wiping out over 70 percent of our food supply will do? Albert Einstein himself once predicted that humans could only survive four years without bees.

Although an official cause is unknown, there are some theories being proposed. Bees are disappearing due to a disease known as Collapsed Colony Disorder (CCD). CCD causes bees to leave the hive and never

come back, only leaving a few bees left to maintain the hive. The bees that leave die off due to being alone, and the hive is so understaffed that it fails. The few remaining bees die as well.

CCD is caused by numerous factors. The most common one is pesticides. Certain pesticides can weaken a bee's immune system and cause them to get CCD. Many crops grown in America are GMOs, or "genetically modified organisms." GMOs are

manufactured by big companies like Monsanto that modify the crops that we grow when it is a seed. Many of these crops have pesticides built into them, which are bad for the bees when they go to pollinate these crops.

Bees are needed to help us sustain our food supply and pollinate the plants so we can survive. Bees, however, are more amazing creatures than you think. Bees are very smart and have a system of democracy. Bees can

be trained to sniff out bombs.

Bees are also important for medical advancement. Honey is used in numerous medicines and treatments, and bee venom can help fight the cure for cancer as bee venom helps shrink tumors.

What can you do to help out? You can organize your friends to persuade your city and the state to ban pesticides that hurt bees, petition to ban GMOs and encourage your city to plant more bee friendly plants.

ONE PERSON'S OPINION

Writer 'broadcasts' desire for radio station

By FOSSETTE ANDERSON

Staff Writer

Wouldn't it be nice to be able to know all about what's going on in campus right now? Oh wait, we have advertising on TVs and boards for that. Also, let's not forget about the fact that everything is also advertised on the JJC website. Well, almost everything. Well I guess we have all of the advertising and news we need. Or do we?

Of the student's I've talked to, not even half of them go on the school web site or actually pay attention to the TV's and posters around the campus. Some of those students don't really know what's going on because they don't go past the bridge or to the cafeteria and let's not forget about the community that doesn't even come to JJC but is a large part of it.

If we had a radio station we would be able to tell not only the students but also the community about what's happening at JJC. Not only that but it would also help people to understand more about JJC and persuade others to

come attend this fine school.

We could do news broadcasts and weather reports to those who don't have a computer or who don't come every day. We could do a music section so people can enjoy a good song or two while coming to school or eating in the cafeteria.

The communications department could use it to learn how to do real live broadcasts. The best part is that we could add a new club to the mix or expand an old one. Besides all of those reasons, there are lots of colleges who have their own radio stations, so why not the very first community college?

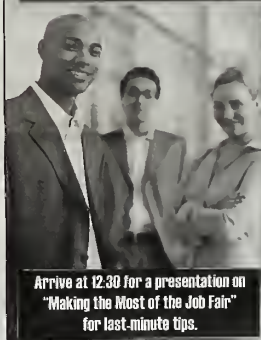


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Vindication for an illegal tragedy

BY RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

11 million people uncertain of their future could finally see their dreams of opportunity and citizenship fulfilled. Most have played integral roles in society as workers, taxpayers and community members. Many become as American as you or I.

"The time has come for common sense: comprehensive immigration reform," President Obama said in response the day after a bipartisan group of eight Senators unveiled proposals granting a pathway to citizenship to nearly the entire undocumented population.

Seeing Democrats and Republicans capable of actually working together towards anything was pleasantly bemusing. But I was downright taken aback by the sheer totality of the proposal, and sought to gain perspective.

For Patricia Santoyo-Marin, the Latino Outreach and Retention Specialist and key advisor to the Latinos Unidos club here at JJC, the issue is far more personal. Her struggle in helping undocumented students enroll in JJC and beyond is always an uphill battle.

"I try to remain hopeful," Patricia said about the legislation's potential. "When you have a community that has been really striving for change for so long, you continue to have hope. But let's just say I have nervous optimism."

Her anxieties are not unfounded. Such a bill was proposed in 2006 and 2007 and each time it was killed on the Congressional floor.

For many hardliners on immigration, immediate mass deportation is a more deserving fate for the illegal population. For them, the proposed path to citizenship is both troubling and shocking.

Their arguments are usually a pie in the sky rant about higher fences fortified by more guards, guns and drones. Throw in a squadron of Apache attack helicopters outfitted with lasers and finally, they muse, a practical solution.

This hog-washed thinking is pure poppycock strategy. Stringent border control tactics have long been suspect, if not futile.

The government's own study shows expenses up to 1.35 billion

from 2006 to 2011 on securing the border; none so far have proven effective. Show me a 30-foot fence and I will find a guy with a 31-foot ladder.

As for the bit about mass deportation? The Center for American Progress cited the cost of deportation per person at \$23,480. Extrapolated to the entire undocumented population, the 2010 report estimated the cost of mass deportation at \$480 billion dollars.

Conversely, by studying data after the last amnesty bill in 1986, UCLA and The Cato Institute separately concluded that granting amnesty would actually boost the economy. According to the report, granting amnesty again would create more jobs and boost wages, potentially increasing the GDP by 1.5 trillion dollars over the next ten years.

My interview with Patricia was short on political musings, but what struck me was her insight into the countless millions who struggle with fear and uncertainty nearly everyday. A routine pull-over could easily compromise their future status, and at least strap them with about \$1000 in legal fees.

Many companies underpay undocumented workers and it is a nationwide problem. Her accounts of companies offering the 'privilege' of long hours without overtime pay were framed in a caution not to divulge company names. The companies she referred to operate inside the area JJC District 225 draws upon.

While owning a car, a home and having a job are all obtainable for an undocumented citizen, none of the entitlements come along with it. Social safety nets like Medicaid and Social Security are denied and many live their lives with no meaningful assistance of any kind.

With no legal standing to fall back on, employers exploit them while society ignores their discrimination. The resulting price is the loss of civil liberties every person in this world deserves; the price is their right to live.

"The things that I learned in grammar school by reading 'The Jungle' by Upton Sinclair are an everyday reality for undocumented workers," Patricia said, and the reality struck home.

It's clear there is no easy solution to immigration, but

this obstacle mustn't prevent us from adherence to this nation's principles of fairness and equality. The obligations we set, that anyone in America has the opportunity to succeed, are the utmost of our duties.

America is, after all, a nation of immigrants, whether they crossed the Bering Strait, the Rio Grande, or were greeted by the sight of the Statue of Liberty following an Atlantic voyage.

Any new reform must live up to those principles reflected in the immortal slogan of Lady Liberty herself: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

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DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

Junk-food alternatives

By JESSICA CERDA

Staff Writer

Coming to a community college is not easy on a diet. As commuter students we often find ourselves grabbing a quick bite to eat in the cafeteria or eagerly giving in to vending machines. It is hard to have a healthy meal when students have little time between classes. Students resort to snacking on a Snickers bar, eating a bag of Doritos or my personal favorite, a Hershey's Almond bar.

When a student is at school for more than five hours straight and not going home for lunch it is difficult to eat healthy. For the first week of the semester I found myself eating pizza and cookies between classes. I began to think of other snacks that would give me the same satisfying feeling as junk-food but would have a better outcome for my diet. Although it may seem impossible to break the habit of snacking on junk food, there are alternative options.

Chocolate Drizzled Almonds

A delicious Hershey's Almond bar contains 210 calories. Although the approximate 10 almonds in that bar are good for you, all that chocolate is not. So why not just reverse the

contents? Have more of what is good for you and less of what is not. Chocolate drizzled almonds are easy to make. Simply melt baking chocolate in a bowl and microwave it with a little milk or water. Then, spread the almonds on a cookie sheet, drizzle the melted chocolate and leave them in the refrigerator to harden.

Apple Chips

Bags of potato chips are the easiest to carry around with you in between classes, but the 150 calories per bag is not easy on the waistline. Apple chips are a great choice, you get the same taste but in little bite-size chips. To make these treats, take a washed apple and slice it in circles (as thin as possible). Next, take a baking sheet and line it with parchment paper. Arrange the apple slices on the baking sheet making sure they do not overlap on each other. Sprinkle ground cinnamon and bake at 225 degrees for two hours or until crispy. Make sure to flip them at least twice while they are in the oven.

Popcorn with a twist

Popcorn is one of the easiest snacks to make and take around with you anywhere. Popcorn at the movies has added butter and salt. At the famous Garrett's Popcorn in Chicago, they add almost anything you can think

of on popcorn. This simple treat can be taken back to its original form and be a healthy choice. Try buying all natural GMO/genetically modified organism-free popcorn. Being that popcorn is one of the most GMO affected products it is important to make sure you buy all natural. Once it is popped in your microwave, adding parmesan cheese and light salt, will make it a deliciously healthy snack.

All of these snacks are healthy alternatives to junk-food that students eat. They can all fit in a zip-lock bag and are easy to carry from class to class. Even though as students there is not much time to have a big meal these small snacks will get you through that tough class.



ARTS from page 1

fashioned into art.

This gallery is made for the artists who were recognized by the 33 Contemporary Gallery. The gallery is a Chicago-based fine arts gallery with over seven years of continuous exhibition. Their purpose is to represent, promote and aid collaborations through the gallery. They represent local, national and international emergence of their artists who dabble in various media as well.

Not only can you view the art, but you can purchase it. When you enter the door there is a pricelist for all the pieces displayed. They even have prices for artwork, just in case there is an order you want that is not a part of the exhibition.

The pricelist not only includes the pieces and their prices, but also includes the artists who made them, and their information. Provided in the pricelist is their residence and hometown, history in art, media (what they use to make art), why they do what they

do and other information that will help you get a better feel for the artist you are interested in.

Artist include Mary Bookwalter, Dana Cavazos, Maribeth Coffey-Sears, Jennifer Cronin, Tanya Gadhw, Petronilla Hohenwarter, Jan Meister, Joe Milosevich, Jennifer Moore, Injung Oh Zhoushi, Pedro Palacios, Michael Ruback, Steve Sherrell, Carol Weber, Mark Zlotkowski, etc.

If you want to get a brief look at this art exhibition there is a video on YouTube that will let you see what it looks like before you even step through the doors. Go to YouTube and type into the search box, "2013-01-24—JJC Presents: 33Contemporary Exhibition" and you will see a two and a half minute video with some calming music in the background as you get a camera's view of someone skimming the exhibits themselves.



Dan Lantz, a JJC staff member, checks out the new Photo by Renee Ronzone
Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery.

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Q&A: Stand-up comedian sits down for an interview

BY VICTORIA SHINER

Staff Writer

Alec Jones, otherwise known as Otter, has been attending JJC for two and a half years now, but he is more than just a biology major, he also performs standup at various venues.

When you speak with Alec, his comedy comes out in his personality. A Minooka native, Alec has aspiring dreams of being a successful comedian or possibly an actor. Alec does stand up Wednesday nights at the Joliet Bakery. He also performs Thursday nights at nine at Joliet's Mojoe's.

You can also check Alec out at www.facebook.com/AlecDoesStandUp to find his upcoming gigs that don't include Mojoe's and the Joliet Bakery.

Q: When did you first take an interest in standup?

A: About two years ago. I used to play guitar and sing songs and would crack jokes between songs and one day, just decided to try doing a set of just jokes. I guess you could say it's worked out so far.

Q: At what time did you start performing, and what was your motivation to start performing?

A: I've sort of always been performing. I joined the school band in fourth grade, did a small amount of choir in Junior High, I even did the musical in eighth grade (which was Annie). Technically the first time I ever did stand up was on speech team in seventh grade when I did Bill Cosby's Noah bit.

Q: When and where do you perform?

A: When? Anytime. Where? Anywhere. You can usually catch me Wednesday nights at The Joliet Bakery at 9 and now every Thursday at Mojoe's in Joliet at 9.

Q: What would you say your style of stand-up is? What makes your style different/unique?

A: I do a lot of one-liners. I am currently trying to work that into a story type bit, so I can vary it up. Nick Thune is a comic that does that really well.



Alec Jones performs.

Q: What is your favorite part of performing standup and why?

A: The laughs, it's sort of a form of therapy for me. There is no high like the high you get from performing comedy. It's almost unreal.

Q: What is your favorite joke?

A: There are too many jokes from too many comedians for me to think of one. So here is one of mine. Going to a rave is an awful way to find out that you have epilepsy.

Q: Favorite Comedian and why?

A: Steven Wright, mostly because of the way he can start a jokes with something that is a tiny bit silly and totally transform it into something that is absolutely ridiculous.

Q: Favorite venue and why?

A: The UCB Theater in LA. I've actually never been there but I enjoy so

many comedians that have come through there and it was started by the Upright Citizens Brigade, my favorite improv comedy group.

Q: Favorite reaction from a member of the audience?

A: I once had a girl 'awww' and then squeal in excitement at one joke. If you see one of my sets, play a lil' game and try to figure out which joke it is.

Q: Why would people enjoy your performance?

A: 'Cause it's funny? I like to take things that seem boring or sacred and turning it on its head and surprising the audience.

Q: What information would you like to give to people who are interested in your standup?

A: I love talking to people after I perform, so I you see a show, please come talk to me and let me know what you thought.

Q: How long would you like to continue standup?

A: As long as possible.

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'Towards another pale blue dot'

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co Editor-in-Chief

Carl Sagan once noted that "the Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena." But is it the only one out there? Sagan thought there was the possibility of life on other planets, but recent advances in astronomy have allowed for the further study of exoplanets, or planets that are outside our solar system, that may be similar to Earth. For University of Chicago astrophysicist Jacob Bean, his research is on the cutting edge of discovering more about the "super Earths" that reside on our cosmic doorstep. In his Feb. 11 public lecture, Bean discussed the future of habitable exoplanet research to a full audience. "We've spent the last 20 years discovering many planets," Bean said. Even though many exoplanets have been discovered, their characteristics remained a mystery until now. "Over the next ten years, ground and space telescopes, particularly the new generation, will actually say something about the habitability of planets,

or if they can support life. I find that very exciting," Bean said to a crowded lecture hall. Bean mentioned that there are over 1,000 planets that are suspect of habitable conditions. New telescope technologies are enabling scientists to understand the composition (gas, rock, etc.) of planets outside our solar system. Bean notes that this could help us better understand not only how other solar systems are formed, but our own as well. The discovery of an Earth-sized planet that is the right distance away from a star has not yet happened, but Bean is confident this will occur within the year. Despite all the attention habitable planets are receiving in astronomy news, Bean informed the audience that we only have been unable to gather data about planet size until recently. "If you're interested in the question of habitability, there's even another axis to consider, which is the composition of the atmosphere is," Bean said. Some theories about what type of atmosphere habitable planets have are currently being proposed by astronomers.

These theories are based off of measuring the wavelengths of light emitted by a star as a super Earth passes in front of it. This is a telling indicator of the planet's composition because astronomers can determine what type of atmosphere is present on a given planet. If a planet has a gaseous hydrogen atmosphere, the light passing through the planet's atmosphere will cause the planet to seem larger than it really is. Bean chose a specific super Earth and explained three theories about its composition. That is, the planet could be like Neptune with a rock or iron core surrounded by an icy mantle and gases, a "water world" with an atmosphere of steam, or a "true super Earth" that has the same core and atmosphere composition as the Earth, only scaled up in size. While the verdict is still out on several of these planets, new technologies are scheduled to be completed within the decade, one being the James Webb telescope, a successor

to the Hubble Space telescope. "Besides using existing instruments to find and characterize planets, another thing I want to do is to build instruments that allow us to push further," Bean said.

"Technology is a key part of this," Bean is currently involved in a proposal process advocating for the building of a new telescope. This would allow him and his team to better understand exoplanets and beyond.



Courtesy of California Institute of Technology



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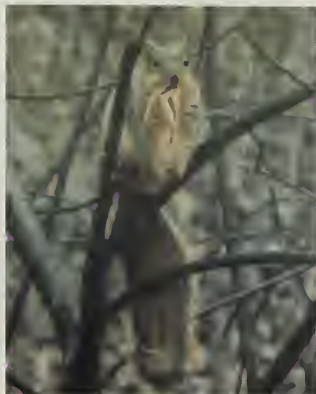
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Around Campus



Students perform during the Sunday tech rehearsal of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

Photos by Renee Ronzone



A squirrel with a gold patch on its head eats corn husk. The campus still has plenty of wildlife during winter.



Beautiful costuming is just one of the many things to look forward to. The show runs Feb. 28-March 1 at 7:30PM, and March 2-3 at 2PM.



Members of the Here's Your Sign ASL Club pose with Crom Saunders.



Students rush to class past Ms. Vaughn's natural hair discussion.

Saunders shares his stories with humor

BY RENEE RONZONE

Staff Writer

The first thing you might notice about Crom Saunders is the eyebrows. Tuffy and wild, they look quite similar to caterpillars. Perhaps the second thing you notice is the glare bouncing off his head. If you were to pass him on the street or in the grocery store, you might just miss his hearing aid.

Many people do. All sorts of experiences result from this, as he shared with the attendees of his Feb. 21 performance on the bridge, sponsored by the Here's Your Sign ASL club. He began with a story and translated it verbally for those who do not understand American Sign Language about a moment he had at the supermarket. Some deaf people rely on scripts to get through daily interactions, and in this case his script backfired and resulted in total misunderstanding.

"Did you find everything alright?" the cashier had asked him, to which he replied, "I'm good."

Things only got worse as the conversation continued, until the cashier finally noticed the hearing aid in his ear. The cashier asked if he would like help out to the parking lot. "I'm cool, thanks!" he replied aloud, miming a cart being pushed away with a jovial skip.

His other stories included touching tales of his cat, Moses,

as well as three interpretations of a Western scene with differing levels of ASL ability. American Sign Language was something Saunders did not learn until he went to college, and is something that his cat, Moses, inspired him to learn.

During a vocal match with his mother, Moses smuck up on Saunders and clawed his arm. Saunders took this as a message to focus on a better way of communicating, leading into learning American Sign Language.

Having seen "The Exorcist" on television when he was just five years old, his love of horror and performance was rooted by a comical incident on Halloween. An older neighbor lifted Saunders' mask, only to see vampire fangs protruding from his mouth, giving the man a shock that baffled and intrigued Saunders.

Crom Saunders has a Master's in Creative Writing and majored in on television when he was just five years old, his love of horror and performance was rooted by a comical incident on Halloween. An older neighbor lifted Saunders' mask, only to see vampire fangs protruding from his mouth, giving the man a shock that baffled and intrigued Saunders.

He now has a successful career as a comedian, presenting, teaching, and performing all over the US, and has been involved with deaf theatre for 13 years. He will be in Chicago on March 13 for the world premiere of the first ASL version of The Encyclopedia Show, and will be back in Joliet on April 16. Watch for the eyebrows!



Crom Saunders portrait. Crom Saunders will be returning to the Joliet area on April 16th. Courtesy to Renee Ronzone

JJC provides students with transfer resources

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co Editor-in-chief

For those intending on transferring to a four-year university, the process can be daunting if not confusing. Spring marks a time of preparation for students as they scramble to meet deadlines and figure out if their classes will transfer. JJC has many resources available for students to utilize, and JJC's transfer specialist Cheryl Turrisse recommends that students take full advantage of them.

"We have many resources, both campus-based resources and online resources. There are counselors and academic advisors available," Turrisse noted. Academic advisors differ from counselors in that each adviser specializes in a field of study. If a student knows their major, it is likely they can contact an academic advisor and receive information tailored to them.

Degree audits are also

available. A degree audit with a counselor helps students keep on track and determine if they are taking the right classes for transferring.

"I would recommend getting one every semester," Turrisse said. JJC is also hosting transfer information sessions, a new addition to the options students have in learning more about the process.

"It's always up to the four-year colleges when it comes to what they take toward a degree. I usually liken degrees to recipes," Turrisse explained. "Though you may have a recipe for chocolate cake and I have a recipe for chocolate cake, we think ours is the best. You may put extra sugar in yours or extra chocolate, or I may use my grandma's secret recipe. Each four-year school gets to choose what goes into their degrees."

Because of this, JJC has agreements with some schools that allow classes to transfer seamlessly.

Governor's State and the Perdue University campuses are examples of schools that work with JJC so that most general education classes will transfer. Turrisse recommended that students take advantage of a website called uselect in order to match JJC courses with their transfer school's equivalents. Uselect also has its own transfer guides, which puts together a list of recommended courses based on your school choice and major.

Along with the resources mentioned above, JJC holds various new events for transfer students to take advantage of. Group transfer information sessions are available, with the next session being held on March 12 at 12:30-2 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. in A-1061. These are general information sessions that teach students how to find what they need to using the JJC website and how to navigate another university's website.

CALENDAR OF FINE ARTS EVENTS

MUSIC

Musica Viva Series

March 10, 3:00 pm: Screaming Norwegians Percussion Duo
Adam Cowger and Ben Wahland. *Fine Arts Theatre*

Student Recital

March 20, 2013 11:00 am:
Students prepared prepared works for live audience. *Fine Arts Theatre*

Concerts

March 17, 4:00 pm: The Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra. *Fine Arts Theatre*

THEATRE

Musical Theatre

March 1-3, Vaseline Times, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."
Directed by Tammy Perkins,
Musical Direction by Sue Malmberg. *Fine Arts Theatre*

One Act Plays

Student directed one act plays are beginning auditions in early March. Please see the theatre department for details.

ART

Spring Exhibition

March 4-29, Any Time:
The Laura A. Sprague art gallery is hosting the works of JJC Assistant Prof. Eric Gorder. *New Works in Clay: An Exploration of Color and Space* will be available for walk-in viewing at any time.



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'Dead Space 3' a fun thriller

BY MICHAEL SCHULLER
Staff Writer

Electronic Arts has been releasing some major hit franchises recently. *Dead Space 3*, *Mass Effect*, *Battlefield*, *The Sims*, *Crysis*, *Medal of Honor* and *Madden* franchises are just a few. EA has made it a habit of publishing good games and then kicking them running for everything they are worth. Something a ton of fans worry about is whether or not this powerhouse publisher is not going to push franchises past their prime. *Dead Space 3* was released Feb. 5 of this year and is not past its prime.

Packed with tons of new features such as campaign co-op, ridiculously powerful weapons and brand new soundscape and settings that will haunt your dreams, the latest addition to the series is far different than the previous two. Actually, some of the changes are pretty insane.

The co-op campaign mode has main protagonist Isaac Clarke teamed up with a

soldier named John Carver. While it's nice to finally have a more battle ready feel in this survival horror, it doesn't make the game any easier. You're going to need all the firepower you can get when the hordes of necromorphs get ridiculously amped up in insane mode or some of the other difficulties.

You can play the game having severely limited resources, restricted saving ability and so

on. To make matters worse, not only do you have to fight outside of your mind, insanity seeps into your characters and causes them to introvert inside of your mind. The first time this happened to me, my partner literally thought I was crazy. I was fighting shadow creatures inside of my own head, fully lethal but unseen to my partner already fighting hordes of grotesque horrors outside of my mind.

Some recent survival games, like *Resident Evil*, have turned co-op functionality into a joke. When you don't have a human partner, you are left with a failure of an AI that wastes all your resources and really detracts from the experience.

Fans worries were ceased when *Dead Space* played out with your AI partner being more then capable and in fact dropping out for large parts of the game

to give you a more classic survival horror experience.

Another feature new to the *Dead Space* series, but not new to EA published games, is the option to play for better weapons and gear. You do not have to purchase anything to win the game; it's just an additional feature to aid players who don't feel like they have the time to gather the resources themselves. Some fans find this feature a stab in the back, but I see it as just a developing trend

to get some of the more affluent gamers to give some more money to the people who worked hard to bring us this product.

I would feel differently if it really threw off the game balance for the "free" players, but really everything is available to you pretty easily for a survival horror game.

I don't want to ruin the story for anyone else by really getting into the details, but I found it to be just as amazing as the previous installments. The winning factor here is how carefully the developers craft the sounds and imagery to work together to really keep you on edge.

You're watching the vents, peering into the blizzard and listening to the silence so hard you start to imagine things. *Dead Space 3* keeps all of the original intent of the developers with some added features that were probably pushed by EA. The co-op works really well and the in-game purchases I can do with or without. If you're looking for an intense distraction and some quality nightmares, *Dead Space 3* is for you.



Courtesy of EA Games

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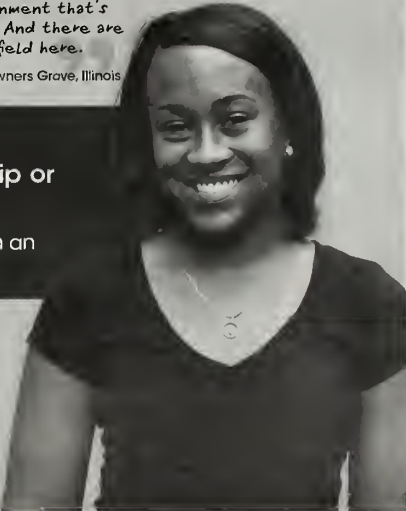
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Gaming nostalgia for 'Ralph'

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-In-Chief

If you are looking for a charming animated film with video game nostalgia, it certainly will not wreck your evening to give "Wreck-It Ralph" a chance. This Disney film brings in Rich Moore as a director. Moore has directed episodes of shows like "Futurama," which might appeal to an older audience.

"Wreck-It Ralph" centers around Litwak's Arcade. When the arcade closes at night, the video game characters are free to abandon their usual roles and interact with characters in other games. This has a definite "Toy Story" feel, with game characters instead of toys assuming sentient roles. One such character is Ralph, the villain in the game "Wreck-It Ralph."

Ralph reveals that he no longer wants to be a villain at a support group with his fellow antagonists because he feels as if he is ignored and unappreciated by the other characters in his game. Afterward, Ralph finds all the characters in "Wreck-It Ralph" celebrating an anniversary for their game without him.

To prove that he can be a "good guy," (like the protagonist

of the game, Felix) Ralph goes on a mission to earn a medal in another game. This ultimately leads to him inadvertently landing in the eutasy racing game, "Sugar Rush." There he meets Vanellope, a character the other racers regard as a glitch. Because of this, Vanellope is not allowed to race. Vanellope convinces Ralph to help her create a car and teach her how to drive so she can race with the others.

ventures out to go find Ralph with the assistance of Calhoun, a main character of the first-person shooter "Hero's Duty."

Gamers and children of the 80's and 90's will appreciate the gaming references and cameos. Bowser, Doctor Eggman, Q*bert and more make an appearance. You might have to watch it again to notice all the subtle references to classic video games. The soundtrack is quite varied, with influences from Skrillex and surprisingly J-pop group AKB48.

Disney has successfully appealed to gaming culture without trying too hard and has crafted a heartwarming narrative that uplifts anyone who is having a bad day. "Wreck-It Ralph" is a recognizably Disney movie, but is bubbly and fresh in its imaginative environments.

If you are in the mindset that animated movies are for families and kids only, this might be the film that dispels that assumption. All ages are able to appreciate the movie, with humor for both kids and adults.

While Disney creates consistently endearing animated movies, there's no doubt that "Wreck-It Ralph" holds its own as one of Disney's most upbeat and fast-paced movie. If you haven't seen this movie yet, I recommend you fix that.



Courtesy of Disney Studios

However, when Ralph does not return home, players cannot play Wreck-It Ralph and the game is in danger of being removed from the arcade. Felix, desperate to save his game from being unplugged,

Upcoming games for March

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Gears of War: Judgment



God of War: Ascension



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Film review

Magic, casters abound for 'Beautiful Creatures'

BY KRISTI BEDOLLA

Staff Writer

Besides being called the year of the snake, 2013 is also the year of young adult books turning into blockbuster movies. "Beautiful Creatures" is one of those movies inspired by the novel. Released this past weekend, director Richard LaGravenese brings the first book in the "Caster Chronicles," written by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl, to life.

The story begins with Ethan Wate (Alden Ehrenreich), a teenage boy living in Gatlin, a small southern town where Civil War reenactments are part of your final grade.

Ethan can't wait to graduate high school and be as far away from the small town as possible. News of a new student in the high school causes everyone to be on the alert. The new student, Lena Duchannes (Alice Englert), is a relative

of Macon Ravenwood (Jeremy Irons) the town's anti-social and rumored devil worshiper.

The entire town pins Lena down as a dangerous and is expelled immediately. Ethan meets Lena and tries to befriend her, but she brushes him off and leaves him breathless.

The next day, Lena keeps

being verbally attacked by fellow students and suddenly all the windows in the classroom break instantly.

Lena rushes out of the room, leaving the chaos behind. Ethan drives to her home to see if she is ok, thus beginning their friendship. However, Lena holds a secret that could bring harm to

her family and the more time she spends with Ethan, the harder it gets to hold that secret any longer.

Unexplained events happen and Ethan demands Lena to tell him what is really going on. Lena reveals that she and her family are "Casters" with supernatural powers. Her powers are growing, and on her sixteenth birthday her

true nature will claim her to be a light or dark caster.

Ethan and Lena start to fall in love, leaving it up to Macon and Anna (Viola Davis) to prevent their relationship from going any further. Lena learns from Macon that a curse has been put on the family; in turn, this curse could affect whether she turns light or dark. As the number of days becomes smaller, Lena tries to discover a way to end the curse and still turn into a light caster. Will Lena be successful? Or will the curse claim her otherwise?

After seeing this movie, I was surprised about how satisfied I was at the outcome of this movie. All of the actors did a good job portraying their characters. The scenery and locations chosen gave off the southern gothic feel that is prevalent in the books.

The music for the film added up the experience and made it all come together. I feel that the screenwriters did a good job condensing the book into a two-hour movie. I would give it four stars.



Courtesy of Warner Bros.



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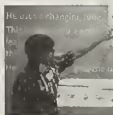
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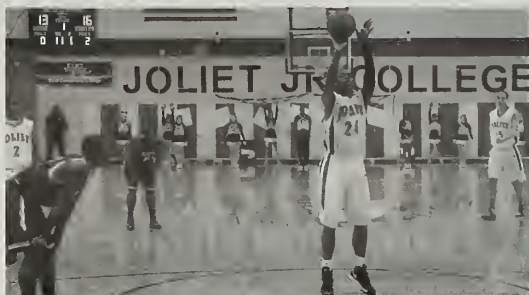
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Khari Jones shoots a free throw in a game against Wilbur Wright College. Photo by Renee Ronzone

Wolves head to playoffs

BY LUKE SCIACCOTTA

Sports Editor

The Joliet Junior College men's basketball team has certainly gained significant momentum heading into the 2013 playoffs by winning three out of their last four games.

The Wolves, however, started these last four games with a 104-77 loss at Triton College on Feb. 11. Pierre Jolly finished with 19 points, while Edward Richardson scored 11 points and Khari Jones put up 8 points and 9 rebounds in a tough loss.

Head Coach Joe Kuhn was not satisfied with the outcome.

"We did not come ready to play tonight," he said. However, Kuhn did offer some foresight into the next game. "We will have to pull it together quick before Milwaukee."

The next game on Feb. 13 was a different story when the Wolves

traveled back home to take on Milwaukee Area Technical College. Jolly again led the way with 16 points followed by Ben Daniel with 14. Antwan Hill also had 13 points and 9 assists in the 77-64 victory over Milwaukee.

"I thought that we looked a little better tonight," Kuhn said. "We will have to continue to play our best basketball from here on out."

The Milwaukee victory was just the beginning for the Wolves as they answered with another victory at home against Wilbur Wright College on Feb. 16, 80-66. The Wolves' 14-point victory was led by Jones with 21 points and 14 rebounds for a double-double. Daniel, who scored 20 points, and Jolly, who dropped in 16 points, also paved the way for the win. Taylen Alexander also chipped in 9 points and 10 rebounds, just missing a double-double.

"Our effort on the boards was

outstanding, and we moved the ball really well tonight," Kuhn said. "We have two tough road games left and we will need to be ready to play."

Kuhn's words after the Wilbur game seemed to have rung true as JJC earned its third straight victory four days later with a road win against Rock Valley Community College by a score of 78-69.

Jolly again scored in double figures by dropping 13 points while Hill added 11 points in the contest.

Kuhn was obviously pleased with posting a road conference win.

"Rock Valley is always a difficult place to play, but our guys hung in there and grinded out the win," he said.

Entering the Feb. 23 game against College of Dupage, the Wolves had a 20-9 record overall, with a 12-1 record in the N4C.

Bears need offense



BY LUKE SCIACCOTTA

For Chicago Bears General Manager Phil Emery and newly appointed head coach Marc Trestman, there is one question they need to ask themselves as the 2013 National Football League offseason gets underway: How can we properly fill the needs we have on the offensive side of the ball in order to become an elite team in the NFL?

In the 2012 season, the Bears were ranked fifth in total defense and were ranked second in the NFL in taking the ball away from opposing offenses—an elite defense to say the least, especially for a defense that is veteran and getting older.

However, the Bears offense was ranked 28th in total offense, and starting tight end Kellen Davis was ranked 44th out of 49 "starting" tight ends in most catches. And the Bears' offensive line also gave up 44 sacks and 87 quarterback hits, making it one of the worst offensive lines in the league.

There is obviously a dramatic disconnect between the offense and the defense. One side of the ball, the defense, is playing at the top of its game and the other side, the offense led by quarterback

Jay Cutler, is still struggling to find an identity and to protect its quarterback and become a powerhouse offense.

It is clear to see that the biggest needs on the offensive side of the ball are to improve the offensive line and to get the tight end more involved within the passing game.

But the question is how do the Bears improve these areas during the 2013 offseason? Well let's start with the offensive line; this year's free agent class is a very talented one.

The Bears have huge problem at the offensive tackle position, and it seems like the best available free agent tackle is Jermon Bushrod.

As a two time Pro-Bowler, Bushrod is in just entering the prime of his career and could certainly help the Bears in the short run until they can find a long term solution.

As for the tight end position, the Bears have the 20th pick in the first round of this year's player's draft. The top three tight ends in the draft will be Tyler Eifert from Notre Dame, Zach Ertz from Stanford and Gavin Escobar from San Diego State.

Any of those players could fall to the Bears at number 20, and all of them could make an immediate impact in coach Trestman's offensive system.

Bushrod and either Eifert, Ertz or Escobar could help to take this struggling Bears offense to the next level and take the Bears to where they want to go, and that's winning championships.



Photo by Renee Ronzone

Pierre Jolly shoots against Wilbur Wright College

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SPORTS



Lady Wolves get revved up before game against Milwaukee Area Technical College on Feb. 13.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

Women ride rollercoaster to playoffs

STAFF REPORTS

The Lady Wolves entered the N4C Conference playoffs Tuesday night on a bit of a roller coaster ride, having posted some good conference wins before falling hard at Rock Valley Community College to the regular-season conference champions.

After posting a forfeit win on Feb. 9 when Triton was forced to cancel its game with the Lady Wolves, JJC fell to Kankakee, 55-47, on Feb. 12.

The Lady Wolves then went on to post impressive N4C wins over Milwaukee Area Technical College, 59-44, and Wilbur Wright College, 62-40, before falling hard at Rock Valley on Feb. 20 by a score of 92-36.

In the Kankakee game at home, Falon Edwards led the Lady Wolves with 16 points and Alana Warren added 13.

At the time, coach Shaun Sanderson said, "I thought that we were matched pretty evenly with Kankakee."

The Lady Wolves followed

that win with another impressive outing at home against Milwaukee Area Technical College. Warren led JJC with 20 points, followed by Brianna Marble's 15. Edwards and Jameka Edwards both chipped in 9 points each.

"We were a little more balanced tonight," Sanderson said following the game. That win moved the Lady Wolves overall record to 10-16, with a strong 7-3 record in the N4C.

The Lady Wolves followed that win with another impressive home victory against Wilbur Wright. Warren led JJC with 14 points, followed by Edwards's 11. Marble and Evans both chipped in 8 to help the cause as the 62-40 win moved the Lady Wolves' record to 8-3 in the conference.

In that game, Edwards took a fall in the last minute of the game, creating concern in the building because the Lady Wolves had already lost point guard Brianna McCurdy for the season with a knee injury. Edwards's injury looked more serious than it was, however, as she was able to play on the sprained ankle in the next

game against Rock Valley.

Sanderson was prophetic after the Wilbur Wright game as he looked ahead to the coming week.

"We will have a tough week ahead of us with the final conference games," he said.

The Rock Valley game proved that, as the Lady Wolves suffered their worst loss of the season, falling to 8-4 in the conference. With the game out of reach, Sanderson emptied his bench in the latter part of the game, which helped to account for the lopsided score. Rock Valley is 13-0 in the conference and

27-2 overall.

The Lady Wolves finished the regular season with a game at College of Dupage on Saturday night. No score was available when the sports section went to

print.

The N4C playoffs were set to begin Tuesday, Feb. 26. A Lady Wolves win would advance them to the regional semifinals on March 2 at Harper College.



Falon Edwards rebounds her own free throw.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Ben Daniel

Sophomore guard Ben Daniel helped lead the Wolves men to two recent wins, earning athlete of the issue. Daniel scored 20 points in the Wolves 80-66 win over Wilbur Wright College on Feb. 16. He followed that up with another 20-point effort on Feb. 20 to help lead the Wolves to a 78-69 win over N4C conference opponent Rock Valley.

Freshman guard Falon Edwards continued to impress as she helped lead the Wolves to two N4C Conference wins in recent weeks. Edwards scored 16 points in a loss to non-conference opponent Kankakee Community College on Feb. 12, but she and the Lady Wolves bounced back the next night to top Milwaukee Area Technical College at home, 59-44. Edwards scored 9 in that win and followed that up with 11 points in a 62-40 win against conference foe Wilbur Wright College on Feb. 16.



Falon Edwards

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EDITORIAL

What's the deal with Daylight Savings Time?

Recently, we set our clocks ahead an hour, and when fall comes, we will have to set it back. Many of us do this, but do we really know why?

For starters, not every country follows this tradition of altering the time. In fact, not all states in the US take part in daylight savings. Arizona and Hawaii are the only two states that do not participate, and remain in standard time all throughout the year.

Back in 2005, Indiana, which already has a complex time system due to being split into two different time zones, adapted a resolution that would require all counties all the state to follow daylight savings time. For a while, only a few counties within the state followed it, while the majority did not. This caused Indiana's already complex time system to become even more confusing. Indiana legislators figured that

getting everyone on the same page was best for the state.

If not everyone follows DST, then why do we have it?

It is said that daylight savings time was originally proposed by George Hudson, who wanted more sunlight to observe insects for his bug collection after work. When he originally proposed the idea in a paper he wrote in 1895, Hudson's idea was considered ridiculous at first. But in 1916, the Germans were the first to adopt it. The Germans believed that setting the clock ahead would give the illusion that the sun is setting at a later time. This would encourage people to stay outside longer, and in return conserve coal for the German military during World War I.

In 1919, the United States attempted it, but it proved to be unpopular so it was quickly removed. However, DST revisited the US during World War

II with the same concept of saving coal and resources to be used by the military by encouraging people to stay outside longer. It became known as "war-time."

In 1966, Congress decided to end complications with the DST with the "Unified Time Act," which set guidelines for DST. Before this act, there were no guidelines for when a state or county had to adapt to DST or how many hours they could set the clocks ahead. This caused complications among the various time zones. The newly-created law didn't require states to take part in it, but if they did they would have to start on the last Sunday in April and end on the last Sunday of October.

In 2005, in order to save more energy, Congress passed the "Energy Policy Act of 2005," which by 2007 made Daylight Savings four to five weeks

longer in order to conserve energy. Today, however, it is controversial whether it saves energy or not. In the 1970s, it reduced energy costs by one percent, which is \$4 per-household for the entire year. This isn't significant. Today, air conditioners and computers require more energy and this disproves the "energy saving" concept associated with DST.

So is DST obsolete? There are LED light bulbs and other electronics that are more effective in saving energy than setting our clocks ahead an hour. The sleep deprivation that DST causes is associated with higher suicide rates and heart attacks. Studies show that workers are also less productive the week that the clocks are set back, which has huge economic costs. Although I appreciate the extra hour sunlight, it still makes me wonder if DST is worth it.

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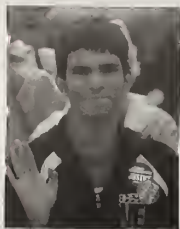
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What May Day 2013 means for Chicago



Y ALEX FORGUE

Staff Writer

Last spring, Chicago caught the global spotlight with the NATO summit, even though the G8 summit was moved to Camp David. NATO brought many protests and rallies before and after the summit, beginning with April 7, which began the "Chicago Spring" with numerous groups such as Answer Chicago and Occupy Chicago. Many focused their attentions on saving the mental health clinics and the anti-war campaigns.

May Day 2012 drew thousands of protesters, with its focus being on NATO and ending the deportations of immigrants.

Last fall, the city grabbed the global and national spotlight again with the Chicago Teachers Union strike. The strike brought attention to many issues facing public education especially in Chicago, giving a voice to issues such as racism and inequality in education, corporate takeover of public schools with standardized testing and charter schools and the lack of resource and the closing of schools. The Black Friday Wal-Mart strikes and the Fight For 15 campaign began to take root in Chicago as well.

In 2013, the fight to save Chicago schools and the misuse of public TIF funds became the leading issue. Today, more than 20 percent of Chicago schools remain on

the list of schools with the potential to close.

This May Day is a perfect opportunity for all groups to come together and demand a Chicago that values education, labor, and social and economic justice.

May Day is not only a day to celebrate the working-class, but to create and sustain a working-class as well. This is a day to give city officials insight on the kind of city that we want. We have to demand a city that uses its tax dollars for education and public services instead of investing it into private hotels and businesses. We have demand a city that only allows jobs with a living-wage and good working conditions.

We have demand a city that protects all people regardless of race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, and class, socially and economically. We have to demand a city

that values the protection of the environment and the importance of a green lifestyle. We have to demand that we can no longer be a city that divides its neighborhoods, schools and resources by wealth and race.

Whether your fight is against racism and homophobia, for better labor conditions, stopping school closings, anti-war or against corporate greed and political corruption, it's time for all of us to come together to realize all of these fights are imperative to creating a better city for working-class people. All of our struggles are related and therefore our fight to end these struggles must be related and unified.

May Day 2013 is the perfect day for all of us to unite as one under the idea that "an injury to one is an injury to all."

You can make the best out of a challenging class

BY RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

The last time I had spoken to Roya Falahi-Kharaghan, it was the end of the 2012 spring semester, and we were wrapping up Intro to Sociology. The class was intellectually demanding, and about a third of the original students dropped within the first month.

While I didn't realize it at the time, the personal enrichment I attribute to taking the class is worth far more. It may sound like a stretch, and I'm not even pursuing sociology major, but the lessons I learned have not only stayed with me, but have shaped the way I perceive the world I live in. So as I walked to the library to attend Falahi-Kharaghan's Brownbag lecture, I could not help but reflect back to the beginning of last spring semester.

I enrolled in the class thinking it would be a piece of cake. Sociology seemed easy enough. I figured we'd just learn about some different people around the world, have a few debates on it and maybe a get assigned a term paper. Two days into the class, however, the bewildered look on my face was akin to most other students in the class, and I think we all wondered to ourselves, "What did I get myself into?"

Conceptually, the class proved more difficult than I had thought. Sociology requires students to place themselves in the shoes of people from far-flung barely heard of places on the planet, like the Bugis, a society in Indonesia with five genders. Such comparisons also mandate the same observations being applied in our own country, state and hometown. These observations and critical thinking methods are difficult to master.

"There is a world outside of Will county people! Explore!" Falahi-Kharaghan would reiterate. Falahi-Kharaghan has been teaching here for 21 years, and is a longtime advocate against gender inequalities.

This concept is ubiquitous to understanding the rest of the class: the notion that society's influences, whether from family, peers or media, will dictate our behavior. Everyday choices like the clothes one wears, the friends one chooses or the way one behaves, are all subject to the expectations of the larger world places on them.

Her class is in-depth, and its

curriculum is uncompromising. This is in your face learning at a highly professional level. Often I would leave her class with a headache, caused not by distress, but by contemplation I had never engaged in before. Most, if not all, of my classmates had a laundry list of complaints about the difficulty level, the work required, or her teaching style.

Falahi-Kharaghan is no poet. She will not serenade or rhetorically waltz with her students in an easy tone. She will question, inform and analyze from every conceivable angle and expect you to do the same. Her work load is heavy, no doubt. Her students are expected to write multiple essays throughout the semester and on her tests.

I've never been a strong learner, and at time have certainly lacked the motivation to perform well consistently. In that classroom however, I had to vanquish those demons and trudge on. Sure the work was difficult, but it became impossible to doubt the purpose or validity of the content. Sociology is a scientific discipline, and if Falahi-Kharaghan said something, it was invariably backed up by a fact or statistic.

If a student tried refuting a point or fact by relating it to a personal story, Falahi-Kharaghan would quickly halt them and exclaim, "We are not talking about your experiences or my experiences, we are talking about those experienced by society in general."

Some students shrunk at the intensity and frankness of her comments, but it opened my eyes to the larger picture before me and challenged the validity in trusting "common sense."

My takeaway from the class is personal in many ways, and some of them have little to do with the actual course. I was fortunate to have such a demanding teacher constantly challenging me on how I viewed the world, but also how I viewed my own potential. When Falahi-Kharaghan speaks about getting an education to her JJC students, she climbs the ladder, as we go on to a four year University to get our Bachelors, our Masters, "and God willing your Doctorate."

I was proud to rise to the challenge when I took her course. I did not waver away and drop it. I know now that with such effort I could persevere.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Some years ago a well-known liberal attorney and author, Alan Dershowitz, was so disturbed by the lack of respect for free speech on college campuses, he's on record as saying: "Political correctness is the most serious issue on college campuses. We are tolerating, and teaching, intolerance and hypocrisy."

The situation is even worse now than when Dershowitz wrote that.

Colleges are now allowing intolerant hate groups to organize on their campuses, and are even helping to fund those hate groups via fees all students must pay. Needless to say, this is a serious problem that requires remediation.

You may be asking yourself: What hate groups? You should be aware that on college campuses all across this country there are student groups that believe in censorship of "politically incorrect" ideas, that believe in inhibiting dialogue by shouting others down and by refusing to debate (because they would lose the debate), and that believe in bullying others into accepting immoral values.

The kind of groups I'm referring to are so-called "gay pride" groups. I experience all this behavior firsthand because I go on college campuses and distribute flyers which explain why homosexual activity is immoral. A friend and I were recently at JJC and experienced such intolerant behavior on the part of some homosexuals and their straight supporters.

Homosexual groups love to smear and label decent, moral people as "homophobes" and "bigots" and "Neanderthals" (et al, ad nauseum) just because these decent people reasonably deem homosexual activity immoral. Judging by their behavior, there is far more hate in the homosexual community than there will ever be in our group.

These homosexual groups also repeatedly offend and outrage blacks by comparing blacks to sexually aberrant people. They do this by comparing the blacks' struggle for civil rights with the struggle by sexually aberrant people for the "right" to engage in disordered, immoral behavior. To compare blacks with the sexually aberrant is ridiculous and offensive, but homosexual groups do it routinely nonetheless. Talk about bigotry.

And homosexual groups, by strongly pushing the "homosexuals are born that way" propaganda (without any definitive proof incidentally) are effectively ignoring the sexual abuse of children. Researchers know that many homosexuals were sexually abused when they were young, and that sexual abuse can contribute to homosexual orientations.

This is all well-documented. Yet the connection between sexual abuse and homosexuality is basically ignored by homosexual groups. What kinds of "people" ignore the sexual abuse of children?

The fact that homosexual hate groups are allowed to organize on college campuses needs to be addressed by colleges.

Numerous colleges are helping to create an intolerant, hostile environment that is not conducive to education (unless you define education as indoctrination with one-sided, irrational propaganda). And, as we've learned the hard way, a hostile environment can someday morph into a violent one. Do colleges want riots occurring on their campuses like those that occurred during the Vietnam War? That's the direction they seem to be heading in. And by essentially subsidizing hate, they could be courting some serious lawsuits down the road.

Sincerely, Wayne Lela of

H.O.M.E. (Heterosexuals Organized for a Moral Environment).

Editor's note: Dear Mr. Lela, While you may be offended by the amount of backlash you received while visiting JJC, the intolerance and prejudice H.O.M.E. expresses towards the GLBT population is alienating. Labeling an entire group of highly diverse people as immoral based on who they love is not only "intolerant," as you describe about GLBT groups, but not conducive to a world where everyone has the right to express themselves as long as they are not infringing on basic human rights.

JJC does have a large and active queer population, something you might have been aware of before visiting the campus. The faculty and staff are also largely supportive of GLBT rights, and our campus is a safe haven for queer-identified people. It is anything but the hostile environment you are describing. Instead, our campus welcomes people of all creeds and orientations. Dissent against your viewpoint is the result of the anger GLBT people rightly feel about being an oppressed minority.

You are concerned that "homosexual hate groups" are allowed to organize on campuses, but you fail to realize that you are arguing against the fundamental duties of educational institutions. Beyond my deeply seated personal disagreement with H.O.M.E.'s agenda, campuses have the important function of being centers of free speech.

This is why your organization was allowed to debate with students in the first place, even though JJC is a "Safe Zone" campus. Unhindered self-expression is one of the key components of educational progress.



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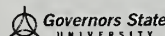


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The realities of gender and education

By RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

JC Professor of sociology Roya Falahi-Kharaghan's latest Brownbag lecture was her 21st installment to the series. Keeping in line with Women's History Month, she has brought attention to gender inequalities in society.

Her presentation focused on two key concepts; the impacts of gender conditioning in education and how formal and hidden curriculum influences the fields each gender will likely go into. All aspects of education, from the classrooms, to curriculum, to management, are all subject to gender bias.

"In American vernacular we use sex and gender interchangeably ... I am using gender as the social significance attached to sex. We are born with a sex, we grow up with a gender," Falahi-Kharaghan explained. This template of society prescribing roles onto people based on preconceived notions is fundamental in understanding sociology. She continues, "it means we translate these biological differences into gender inequalities with much ease."

Gender bias in education manifests itself in many aspects; one example is the tonality. "When you read history, women were given the right to vote. Women

weren't given the right to vote, they struggled for the right to vote!"

Gendered inequality in education is in how they're taught. "[Male students] are more likely to receive in-depth comments about the intellectual quality of their work, whereas female students are more likely to be praised for the neatness and appearance of their work."

Falahi-Kharaghan also notes the two way nature of this street. "Males pay a price for this, especially at an early age as they are more likely to be labeled disruptive and prescribed antidepressants." The high proportion of women at the early elementary level often leads young boys without intellectual role models. This also coincides with the low numbers of women employed at higher education levels, another sign of educational bias.

Men are more likely to take physics, where as women are encouraged to take chemistry and biology classes, shaping the lack of women in engineering.

Gender bias also manifests in tracking, the practice of grouping students based on their perceived intellectual abilities. Here we see how the intersectionality of race, class, gender and socio-economic status all contribute to inequality.

Research shows that tracking pushes women into fields already perceived as befitting

of women. This works across all lines of social classification. If you are poor, you are going to be tracked into vocational or lower level technical work.

Falahi-Kharaghan says, "gender inequalities in education produces the gender differences we assume; it impairs both boys' and girls, men's and women's efforts to find their voices, discipline their minds, and prepare them for their futures."

This is done under our noses, creating guidelines for behavior we follow blindly. Some are taught to settle for lesser careers when their potential is far greater; others are advanced up the professional ladder and given responsibilities they are incapable of handling.

The result is a society where sexually assaulted women are "pushed under the rug." Falahi-Kharaghan then cited, "one in four women will be sexually assaulted at least once in their professional careers."

At this point she spoke solemnly about the reality of gender inequality. "The majority of the poor in the United States are women; the majority of the poor in the world are women. [Women] perform two thirds of the working hours every day, yet they earn only ten percent of the world's income, and only one percent of the world's property."

These statistics do more in defining the motive behind Falahi's reason for promoting societal awareness than any personal account ever can.

It's why Falahi encourages students to take sociology and anthropology classes. It gives students a cultural relativity they can use to pursue occupations and careers they might be otherwise discouraged from doing. Being aware of the world is the only way to know how you are operating in it.

"Ok well! I've utterly depressed you!" The crowd chuckled, as Roya, smiling with her hands together, exclaimed, "but get those degrees please men and women, thank you!"



Photo by Renee Ronzone

Falahi-Kharaghan states that everyone benefits from equal educational opportunities.

'Star Death and Death Stars'

By RENEE RONZONE

Staff Writer

When the end comes for our Sun, it should be pretty interesting. Of course, it's not due for another five billion years, but that doesn't stop any astronomy enthusiast in understanding what happens when a star's life cycle is coming to an end.

On March 12, professor Andrew Morrison gave a quick glimpse on what powers a star and what happens when they die in a lecture aptly titled 'Star Death and Death Stars.'

Stars are initially powered by fusing hydrogen atoms in the core into helium. When the star runs out of hydrogen, it performs something called a helium flash where the star begins fusing helium. This initiates the red giant stage where the star expands from the subsequent radiation pressure building up. When it exhausts the supply of helium in the core, it begins fusing carbon in the core. When carbon is exhausted, the core begins fusing oxygen, creating an onion-like layer effect going through the even-numbered elements all the way to iron. Once a star reaches iron, it cannot fuse anymore. The radiation pressure emanating out of the core from fusion suddenly collapses.

All of the onion layers crash in and rebound against the super dense core. See DEATHSTAR on page 6



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Interview advice for Job Fair kickoff

BY SARAH TSCHETTER

Staff Writer

The bridge was bustling with activity for the Job Fair Kickoff on March 6.

The event ran from 11-2 p.m. It was designed to help students prepare for upcoming job interviews and was organized by Mary Brenzcwski.

Joliet's JCPenny sponsored the event, bringing in its own models, most of whom were JJC students. It also brought clothes from its store for a fashion show on what to wear to an interview. There were three presentations.

The demonstrations focused on what and what not to wear for a job interview. When going to an interview, black, gray, navy, tan or a slight brown suit is preferred. Classic, button up shirts should be black, white, blue or gray. High necklines are preferred. Off-white and ivory tops are not suitable.

Shoes should be shined, showing no wear and tear, the same as belt and other leather items. Also, wear socks that match the pants, never wear white socks.

Hair should be pulled away from faces for women, and men should be tapered and classically cut. Facial hair should

be shaved and makeup should be minimal and polished. Cologne and perfume must not be sprayed more than once, if at all. Deodorant is a must. Finger nails should be cut and groomed. This all sounds like quite a bit to remember, but the presentation stressed that a good first impression can make or break an interview.

Three stations, or checkpoints, were set up for tie tying, makeup and hair. At each of these spots a student received a star on a card for completion.

The fair gave students a good opportunity to see what prospective employers wanted them to look like, as well as being prepared for what to expect after one gets the job.

One of the best ways to do this is to spy on the place and take notes. See what is expected and how the other employees dress.

If others are wearing denim jeans, then they must not be against the dress code. Make sure that this is not just a casual dress day. One does not want to lose their job because they wore something inappropriate to work.

The kickoff also taught students how to prepare for an interview. The day before the interview, get at least

eight hours of sleep. It is better to be well-rested than not rested enough. Drink water, not coffee. Although coffee for breakfast is never a bad thing, it can leave a person's breath with an odd odor.

Lastly, keep a few pristine copies of a resume in a folder or briefcase. This is in case the employer does not have one in front of them. If a student needs any more help, seek the Career Services office in the A building.



Photo by Sarah Tschetter
A student is given a makeover to demonstrate proper makeup styles for job interviews.

The total brain at work

BY RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

JJC's professor of psychology Patrick Tinken, together with a growing number of doctors and professionals, are mobilizing to spread awareness about the benefits of transcendental meditation. On February 26 he helped coordinate a presentation on this form of meditation growing in prominence entitled: "Total Brain Functioning: Buffer the Effects of Stress and Unlock your Inner Intelligence and Creative Powers in your Total Brain."

The presentation included speakers Fred Travis, a longtime proponent and educator about total brain functioning through the use of TM, or Transcendental meditation, and Jay Christopher, a certified instructor in the practice of TM. Also on hand was Kyle Doman, student and president of the TM club here at JJC.

Doman's role was especially interesting. Through the first part of the presentation he was hooked up to an EEG, a device that uses adhesive pads applied to the forehead or other areas of the head, to monitor brain wave activity. The audience could see two sets of his brainwaves on a projection screen scrolling from left to right, with an appearance much like a polygraph or the detector's output.

Travis explained how when TM is performed, the connections between various parts of the mind are strengthened. This strengthening, or brain coherence, is observed by much higher, frequent, and similarly patterned brainwaves.

"Okay Kyle, you can start TM," he said after tuning to Doman.

Almost as soon as his head lowered to begin, the images of his brainwaves changed radically, from inauspicious looking, to the higher level alpha waves associated with TM. As if it were a flip of a switch, we could see brain coherence at work.

Ok, so what is TM? Transcendental meditation is a simple, easily learned meditative practice ideally performed twice a day for 20 minutes for each session. Initiated by the use of a silent "mantra" or cadence, TM is described as an absence of concentration and distracting contemplation within their mind, as one "self-transcends" to more levels of thought in the mind. It is relaxing, yet at the same time, the mind remains alert and conscious, hard at work building connections within one's brain. Unlike other forms of meditation where deep concentration is required, TM differs in its efforts to eliminate any added synthesis of one's thoughts, instead allowing them to pass through your mind without a first or second thought about them. The goal is for the process to be completely effortless. "You turn the attention within, and just let go... absence of time, space, and physical body, just pure consciousness," Travis explained.

See BRAIN on page 6

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—Andrew Belleson '09, business management major from Arlington Heights, Illinois

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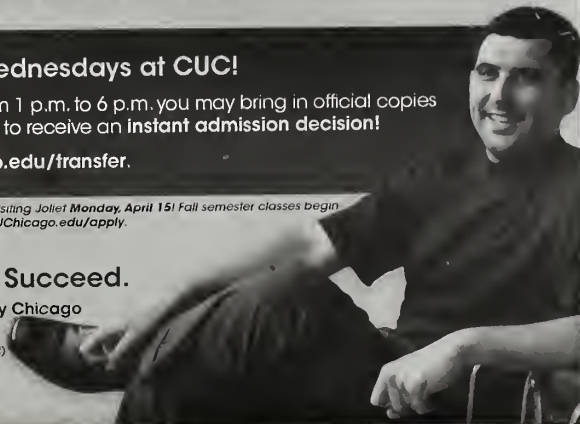
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Students get hands on with anatomy

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Did you know that the human body has 206 bones? Students learned interesting facts about anatomy and were able to experience it firsthand during a March 15 presentation titled, "The Cadaver Experience."

Biology professors, Eva Murdoch and Stephanie Lab, took students on a tour of four new anatomy labs, as well as showed students two cadavers, which were the highlight of the tour.

"It's a really nice benefit that we have for our anatomy and physiology students, to actually be able to see what the body looks like and how the organs are positioned," Lah said.

"Looking at something that's all nice and plastic and color-coded in the way it's supposed to be is not always what we see when we look at the cadaver."

Students looked on as Lab showed them the heart and lungs of one of the cadavers.

She noted how the lungs of the individual were separated into two parts, not three. This is one of the abnormalities that students encounter while studying real specimens. Students were even able to handle and inspect the organs.

During the second part of the tour, Murdoch reviewed different bodily systems and shared a few basic tidbits of information about each one. For the skeletal system, Murdoch let students handle human and cow bones while she shared her knowledge.

"Around Halloween time there's a lot of these around, right? Except they're nowhere close to the anatomy of what this is," Murdoch said while referring to the skull model resting on the lab table. Of the 206 bones in the body, 22 of them make up the skull.

"I think it's kind of impressive to look at the skull," Murdoch said. "The students in anatomy have to master all these forams and these holes in the brain."

Murdoch also discussed the

differences between the male and female pelvis, using a model to note how the female pelvis is wider.

She then led into a lecture of the brain. "It is only the frontal part of our brain that is our intellect," she said as she handed a student a model brain. "It deals with abstract thought, the understanding of time, everything that we perceive as consciousness."

Once the students could view the second cadaver, Murdoch called their attention to the condition of the individual's organs.

"He had advanced stage cancer," Murdoch said. "So you will be able to see spots in the body where the cancer metastasized."

The telling signs of cancer in this individual were the white spots on his liver, as well as lesions on his rib cage. Students were surprised by how much they learned by having a hands on experience with the human body.

BRAIN from page 5

The ending result is a surprising laundry list of both intellectual and health benefits. A reduction of stress and anxiety can be observed and most prominently as well as greater creativity, and learning capacity. Perhaps the biggest surprise is its effects on the cardiovascular system. Researched in conjunction with the American Heart Association, Robert Schneider found the effects of TM led to lower blood pressure and reduced stress, leading to lowered mortality rates and risk of heart disease.

Most recently a Bloomberg Business article reported TM having positive effects on veterans suffering from PTSD. It seems that the benefits of TM are bound only by the person's willingness to utilize the technique. While there is a cost to learning the practice, the potential benefits, especially long-term, should far outweigh the fiscal commitment. The "TM Team" of Tinken, Christopher and Dornan have already scheduled two more presentations for April 10 at 4 p.m., and April 11 at 2 p.m. Lectures usually last about an hour.

DEATHSTAR from page 4

The subsequent ejection of matter into space is called a supernova. The core of the star is left intact, as either a white dwarf or a neutron star. In stars with at least three solar masses (one solar mass being equivalent to our own sun), it becomes a black hole. That's where the Death Star aspect of this lecture comes in.

A gamma ray burst (GRB) is how we know a star has become a black hole.

"We see them in other galaxies on the order of about one a day, and they happen in other galaxies all the time," Morrison said. A forming black hole emits gamma rays in twin jets, so if one of the poles is pointed in our direction, our satellites outside of Earth's atmosphere pick them up. In our own galaxy, a GRB would be catastrophic.

The atmosphere naturally filters out ambient gamma rays, but a burst too close could strip away the ozone. He ended his lecture by comforting the audience that a chance of a GRB being pointed at us and close enough to harm us is slim.



Photo courtesy of WebMD

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Davies visits JJC to raise GLBT awareness



Attendees of the presentation pose with Erin Davies (far right), an advocate for GLBT rights through her rainbow 'fagbug.'

Photos by Renee Ronzone

BY RENEE RONZONE

Staff Writer



Erin Davies

It was an unremarkable day in the middle of April in Albany, New York. Erin Davies stepped onto her street and headed towards her car and stared in shock at her grey Volkswagen Beetle. In bright red spray paint on the hood, someone had crudely written, "u r gay." As she walked

around her car, she saw they had also painted 'fag' right on her driver's side window. There was nothing on Davies' car to warrant the hateful messages except for a thin rainbow sticker across the back.

If fate had left her alone, she would have gotten her car cleaned up, and the incident would have been pushed to the back of her mind. But issues with insurance meant that she would have to wait a couple of days before having the graffiti removed. At first she was hesitant to drive her car, using a rental. But neighbors and strangers both approached her constantly, wanting to talk about what had happened. She decided to drive it to work.

Davies worked on campus at the time, and something unprecedented happened when she snagged a parking spot right in front of her

department. Within a single hour, the campus received 50 phone calls, ranging from concerned to upset.

These reactions gave Davies a feeling she couldn't ignore, and so she decided to leave the anonymous hate message on her car and drive around the country for 58 days. Nearly six years later, it's certainly the most interesting decision she could have made.

Erin Davies shared her experience with JJC staff and students on March 11.

"Being visible is a very powerful thing," she said during her presentation. Wherever she went, there were reactions of every type towards her car. Most people were simply curious, and some became upset on her behalf after hearing her story. Even homophobes, after talking with

her, agreed that it was wrong to do such a thing. Interestingly enough, the largest backlash she received for her journey was from the gay community.

She showed clips from the documentary she made of her first trip around the contiguous United States. She admits she didn't really have a plan and as it turned out, she didn't have the support of the people she expected to support her, either.

But as she traveled on, her car began collecting positive notes left by strangers, and the charity of people she never met before helped her along her way. She met with other people who had been the victims of hate crimes, and even conducted an experiment with testing the reactions her car got when it was visibly operated

by a man for a couple of days.

Davies describes herself as an educator, activist, filmmaker, artist, and business person, and has participated in over 40 Pride parades in cities across the US and Canada. She turned her car into the rainbow beacon of awareness it is now after her first tour around the States. About five months out of every year, she drives across the US spreading awareness. She has received just over 300 notes on her vehicle, only five of which have been negative.

Her documentary, "Fagbug" is available on Netflix or is free to watch on Hulu. She has a website, fagbug.com, and merchandise for sale in support of her goal to reach Alaska and Hawaii, the last two states she has left to visit.

KENDALL COLLEGE

TRANSFER TUESDAY FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

Tuesday, April 2
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Around Campus



Trisha Barnes and Cory Jones lead the flashmob in the Wolves Den on March 1.



Current and future nurses attend the Nursing and Allied Health Fair on March 14 in the newly opened Health and Sciences Building.



Above: Maggie Kelzer makes a move during the Cardboard Social March 14 while Dan Scoggin, Tiffany Delrose, and Markis look on.

Left: Eric Gorder, left, speaks with students Benjamin Rende and Vince James during the reception of his New Works In Clay: An Exploration of Color and Space.

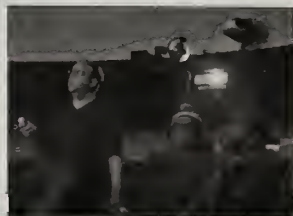


Brian McKee plays the bagpipes on the Bridge March 14, causing many smiles and a few plugged ears as students pass by.



Above: Students parade to promote the Cardboard Social.

Below: Prof. Edward Morrison explains star life cycles during his lecture on Star Death and Death Stars.



Vet Tech open house all that and a barrel of monkeys

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

A playful pit bull mix named Batman tugged at his leash while Vet Tech students fixed his cape and greeted guests. Batman, along with a tamarin monkey named Einstein and several other animals, ended up being part of the main attraction at JJC's public open house for its Veterinary Tech program on March 2.

Prospective students were able to meet with faculty and current veterinary students while learning fun facts about pets and farm animals and some of the challenges they will face during their education and work as a veterinarian. Attendees were able to see common pests like

fleas and ticks up close, as well as tools for large farm animals.

"Your first semester you will deal with large animals. We've dealt with cows, horses and alpacas," said Jennifer Phillips, a student who is in second year in the program. "It was a great experience for the first semester. You learn a lot. It's hard, but hard work is what gets you through it."

JJC's Vet Tech program may be rigorous, but students are able to make a difference in the lives of animals. For a small dog named Daphne, it was a matter of life or death.

The animals the students care for chosen every semester by the adoption staff from Joliet

Township Animal Control. Daphne was picked as one of several dogs. The only problem was that Daphne had an uterus so engorged with fluid that it weighed almost as much as half her body weight.

"We did not know she had this. Coming in, we noticed something was wrong with her so we went ahead and did some x-rays," said Daphne's part-time owner. "That's when we saw that things weren't right."

Daphne underwent extensive surgery and the outcome seemed uncertain for her. However, she made it through the ordeal thanks to the skill and care of the students and staff in Vet Tech

program. Daphne was a lucky survivor since she was going untreated at the animal shelter.

"She's a favorite here. Everyone fought over adopting her." Her current owner was able to adopt this mild-mannered lap dog after she recovered. All 13 animals the students work with will be available for adoption by the end of the semester.

Admittance into the vet tech program is competitive. All students must complete 100 hours of work or volunteer experience under the supervision of a veterinarian by the time of application. Taking general education classes in biology beforehand helps increase

the chances of admission. New students are accepted into the program each fall. The deadline to apply for the program each year is Feb. 1.



Lauren Czuzack lets Einstein climb on her shoulder.

Heidenreich gives helpful tips to creative writers

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Are you struggling with coming up with creative and solid ideas for your next short story or novel? Ask Adam Heidenreich, creative writing professor and advisor for the Worddeater. He led a March 7 presentation and workshop about just this.

"I'm here to talk about the power of lists. I love the list," Heidenreich said. "Listing has so many advantages to just keeping something in your head."

Heidenreich also said that finding common themes or combinations between items on different lists helps writers establish connections between their ideas. Writers can use nearly

any medium to help them come up with plot and character ideas.

Smartphones, inspirational pictures, blog sites like Tumblr, voice recordings and note cards are all useful tools to formulate ideas. Heidenreich's personal favorite is the pocket-sized notebook.

"I've been using this since I was 17," Heidenreich said as he pulled out a tiny composition book. "It's always there. Friends always make fun of me and my dad is always suspicious of me because I'm writing in my notebook when he thinks I'm writing about him. Sometimes I am."

Ways to organize and categorize lists of ideas were also discussed. Heidenreich suggested using color codes for common

subjects, such as work and family. Some other ideas for listing were chunking topics like historical eras, interesting occupations, strange dreams, facts or news stories, character names and exciting events (like alien invasions!) One other method involves writing about the sounds you hear while out and about. This can help a writer describe sensory images in more detail.

"Organize by genre, ranking or theme. Create catalogs. Find logical combinations of ideas," Heidenreich said. "That's the easy one to do, right? Create random mixes and mashups to surprise you, like your thoughts about war and your thoughts about family. Bring them

together and see what happens."

Once the aspiring writer has several lists of ideas, the next step is to collaborate with others. Heidenreich recommended that getting feedback will give writers new perspectives on their work.

"It simply works. I know some of you are hesitant and mistrusting of others and fearful of criticism," Heidenreich said. "Giving your ideas away brings back more."

If you missed the workshop, JJC is hosting related events in the near future. The next Brownbag

lecture, on April 4, will be on the subject of getting published. Worddeater is also hosting a special sustainability-themed Earth Day Poetry Chapbook. Poems must relate to "green" issues like agriculture, pollution, global warming and the environment. The deadline to submit work is April 1. Work can be submitted through the Worddeater website. A special poetry reading will take place April 22.

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Timberlake returns with album '20/20 Experience'

BY LORENZO JACKSON

Copy Editor

Justin Timberlake's new single with Jay-Z, "Suit and Tie," is definitely a success, but most have yet to wonder what the whole album, "20/20 Experience" has in store.

Timberlake, as a musical artist, has been away from his fans since 2006 due to his emergence as a movie star, yet has unexpectedly released an album with music aficionado Timbaland.

The first track, "Pusher Love Girl," was a surprise track to me. This was because they were two halves of a song which I consider a visionary step up from today's simplistic take on music. Both halves of the song were honestly very good lyrically and musically.

"Suit and Tie" was the only song with a feature on it aside from Timbaland's features. Of course Jay-Z is known for what he does best, so his feature was a great addition to the song.

A great reminder of "Sexy Back" was the third song, "Don't Hold the Wall," which is not as bad as it sounds.

I was a little indifferent with the song Strawberry Bubblegum. It wasn't really good or really bad and I feel like if a survey was given the responses will be defined on people's take on pop music in general.

One of the best beats on the album to me was on the song "Tunnel Vision." The tribal drumming adds a different flare to a very non-traditional pop style that Timberlake captures with this album. Also, by the middle of the album I realized that every song thus far has a switch in beat halfway through the song. This is a musical gem and adds a great flavor to the dull, simple taste of music we have become used to.

The other single is "Mirrors," which I think is very classy and the beat change is great!

"That Girl" was one of the shortest songs on the album. If you are a previous listener, you understand that Timberlake has always been known for lengthy songs.

One of the songs that I will put my stamp of approval on, if you don't listen to any other song on the album, is the last song "Blue Ocean Floor." It is an emotionally moving piece. This is a song that you will have to shut off your lights, turn off your TV, lay in your bed with your headphones and soak in. I absolutely loved this song.

My rating for this of this album is an 8.5 out of 10. This treat of an album showed Timberlake's progression as an artist. Advancement is the one aspect that music has been missing for a long time.

Screaming Norwegians take the stage

BY MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-Editor-in-Chief

A percussion duo called the Screaming Norwegians took the stage in JIC's fine arts theatre for the Musica Viva series on March 10. Featuring JIC's own percussion instructor, Adam Cowger, as well as established percussionist and instructor Ben Wahlund, the Screaming Norwegians thrilled the audience for a little over an hour with original pieces composed by Wahlund, an adaptation called "Sweet Home North Dakota," as well as some other great pieces by various composers.

One of the most interesting pieces was titled "The Story of Hip-Hop," composed by Wahlund. It was comprised of a snare drum solo over a recording of a radio tale about Hip-Hop the rabbit. While it's hard to imagine how this would work well, Wahlund excellently played his snare in synthesis with the recording, and working together they created a great musical experience.

The concert also featured a variety of instruments and sounds, as most percussion concerts tend to do, and brought a diverse listening experience to JIC.

While this diversity of instruments and sounds are what make percussion concerts so great, they come with their own challenges as well. Percussionists often have to deal with long instrument change times between pieces, and this concert was no exception. However, Cowger

and Wahlund were prepared with humor and information to keep the audience engaged and entertained.

One of the other problems percussionists have to deal with is the snare drum. Sometimes unavoidably, this instrument reacts to vibrations from other musical sounds while it's not being used and creates a soft rattling that can be distracting to the audience. While there was some noise, Cowger and Wahlund did the most they could to prevent this and bring on a great concert. The final scheduled piece for the concert brought in two other performers, Doug Bratt and Frank Check, and all four percussionists played the drum set.

Living out a percussionist's dream, the drum set ensemble rocked the house and received a standing ovation from the audience. Cowger and Wahlund did not ignore the roaring applause and retook the stage with their encore piece "Sweet Home North Dakota," attributed to Skinny Leonard and is an adaptation of "Sweet Home Alabama" for the marimba.

Playing the same instrument as a duo, they flipped around each other and put on a show that got the audience standing again. The Screaming Norwegians are real crowd pleasers and made this a Musica Viva to remember.



Photo by Renee Ronzone

Adam Cowger and Ben Wahlund jam on the marimba together.

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Cloud Cult pleases listeners with experimental beats

BY SARAH TSCHETTER

Staff Writer

Experimental indie rock band Cloud Cult released a new album on March 5. The band was founded in 1995 by Craig Minowa, singer and songwriter. It was a solo studio project. Four years later, he founded Earthology Records with several others who joined him during this time. In almost two decades, Minowa has created a cult following of listeners who grew up with his music. "Love" is their first full-length album in three years, "Light Chasers" being the previous release, and is their ninth compilation in their 18 years. It contains 13 tracks, three of which are instrumentals that show off the talent behind the voice. It starts off slow and continues and ebbs and flows between fast paced songs and slower ones. Most of the album features easy listening and the songs themselves have memorable melodies.

The album is about the celebration of life and enjoying the world around you. It is about love, hope and wisdom. Precursors for the album started last December and several fans received theirs much earlier than the original release date. Older fans should be a bit wary; their new stuff is different from when the band was first formed.

"Love" focuses more on the indie pop genre than anything else. Their first single off this album is "Good Friend." The

song itself sounds happy and quite carefree, but upon listening to the lyrics there is a dark meaning to the text. It is a testament to life after the supposed end of the world and Mayan prophecy. It has been compared to Polyphonic Sphere, Arcade Fire and Weezer by MTV and several others.

The video tells the story of a young boy who does not quite fit in with the rest of his peers and creates an imaginary friend, reminiscent of "Where the Wild Things Are."

The most catching songs are "Complicated Creation" and "Sleepwalker." Both are motivating and demand attention with their fast, thumping beats and exhilarating tempos. "1x1x1" shows more of their edgy, rock side. "The Calling" is haunting but uniquely beautiful. Finally, "The Show Starts Now" is one of the most inspirational pieces of the album.

"All the Things We Couldn't See," "The First Law of Thermodynamics" and "Catharsis" are the three instrumentals. They each lead into incredible songs and help to drive the album along peacefully.

There were a few songs on the album that were so-so but not unlikeable.

Cloud Cult will be kicking off their tour in April going into May. They will be playing at Lincoln Hall in Chicago. The concert starts at 10 p.m. and tickets cost \$17.

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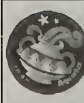
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March Horoscopes



Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 19)

You are bridging the gap between physical reality and your spiritual side today -- so make sure that you're giving both sides equal time. Your life is taking a turn for the better, no matter how it feels.



Leo (July 23-Aug 22)

Listen to the people in your life; some of them are only just now starting to make sense. You've got the right kind of energy to get through to them, too, so communication should be pretty simple.



Pisces (Feb 20-March 20)

What do you need more than anything? No matter what it may be, now is the time to take care of it. Things are turning your way, and your great energy is perfect for anything that moves you forward.



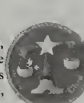
Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22)

It's a really good time to get out and mix it up socially; you may be at loose ends if you hang out on your own. Other folks seem comforted by your good energy, too, so it's win-win.



Aries (March 21-April 19)

You are heading in the right direction, though it may feel as if you're going backward! That just means that you need some downtime, so go on home and see what you find there to replenish your spirits.



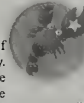
Libra (Sept 23-Oct 23)

You're having kind of a poky day, but that shouldn't stop you from covering the basics. If you don't set your sights too high, you should be able to have a pretty awesome day. Your energy returns soon!



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Life is amusing lately, even if you're not sure what's so funny. Your great stamina helps you take most anything in stride, and you're sure to find that the people around you have their spirits lifted too.



Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)

You're making all kinds of progress on school, work, projects or your love life -- anything that's important to you right now. It's like some barrier has been lifted and you speed on ahead.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

An obstacle on your career path seems much worse than it really is, so make sure that you don't panic. If anything, this could be something that gets you moving in a much better direction.



Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)

Listen up! People near you are sure to have juicy gossip or interesting history -- and you should find that at least one story applies directly to your own situation. Things are just about to get really great!



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You can tell that things are moving in the right direction, but you may not be able to explain why that is, exactly. Just trust your gut and move on, and events are sure to prove you right.



Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)

Information is coming your way that confirms an idea that's been building in your mind for quite some time. The odds are good that this is a positive development.

A cappella group gives an impressive show

BY KRISTI BEDOLLA

Staff Writer

Ever since the release of the movie "Pitch Perfect," the a cappella has exploded into the mainstream media's consciousness. The music these a cappella groups create sound that is pure and effortless, as if one is breathing. Students in colleges and universities around the country have even created a cappella groups and competed for a national title. I had the pleasure of attending a concert at the Riviera Theater for the a cappella group, Pentatonix, and by far it was one of the best concerts I've been to.

The quintet includes: Scott Hoving (baritone), Mitch Grassi (tenor), Kirstie Maldonado (soprano), Avi Kaplan (bass) and Kevin Olusola (beatboxer). The group was previously a trio consisting of Hoving, Grassi and Maldonado, who were all in their high school choir in Arlington, Texas. After seeing the talent competition "The Sing-Off," Scott decided to audition with the trio.

After a friend's suggestion, they found Olusola on YouTube and Kaplan through a friend. The group made it onto the show, and lasted to become the season three champions. Since then, their career has skyrocketed, releasing two albums: "PTX Vol. 1" and "PTXmas." They recently released a music video with violinist Lindsey Stirling, covering Imagine Dragons' hit "Radioactive," which has already reached 200,000 plus views on YouTube.

There wasn't an opening act for the show, which left excitement and anticipation in the air for the group. The show sold out and I was seated in the upper balcony. After waiting for an hour- and-a-half due to complications, the lights finally went down. The show opened with a battle between bass and beatboxer, creating a vocal disstep that was impressive.

As soon as the first notes for the Swedish House Mafia cover were sung, the crowd became ecstatic. What's so special about a cappella is that there are no instruments plugged in and no tuning of amps and guitars. It's all just a group of artists standing before you, giving it all with their voice.

The group continued to amaze the crowd with song after song, including a cello and beatboxing solo by Olusola that received a standing ovation once he was finished. A song from "The Hobbit" was sung by Kaplan, leaving the audience in awe of the depth of his profound voice, as if he were one of the dwarves. He even performed overtone singing, which is the trick of singing two notes at the same time.

Throughout the show, there was much love coming from the audience and from the group. Everyone was respectful and I had a great time. It was such a good show. It was definitely worth seeing and hearing live. Everyone should check Pentatonix out; I promise you will not be disappointed!

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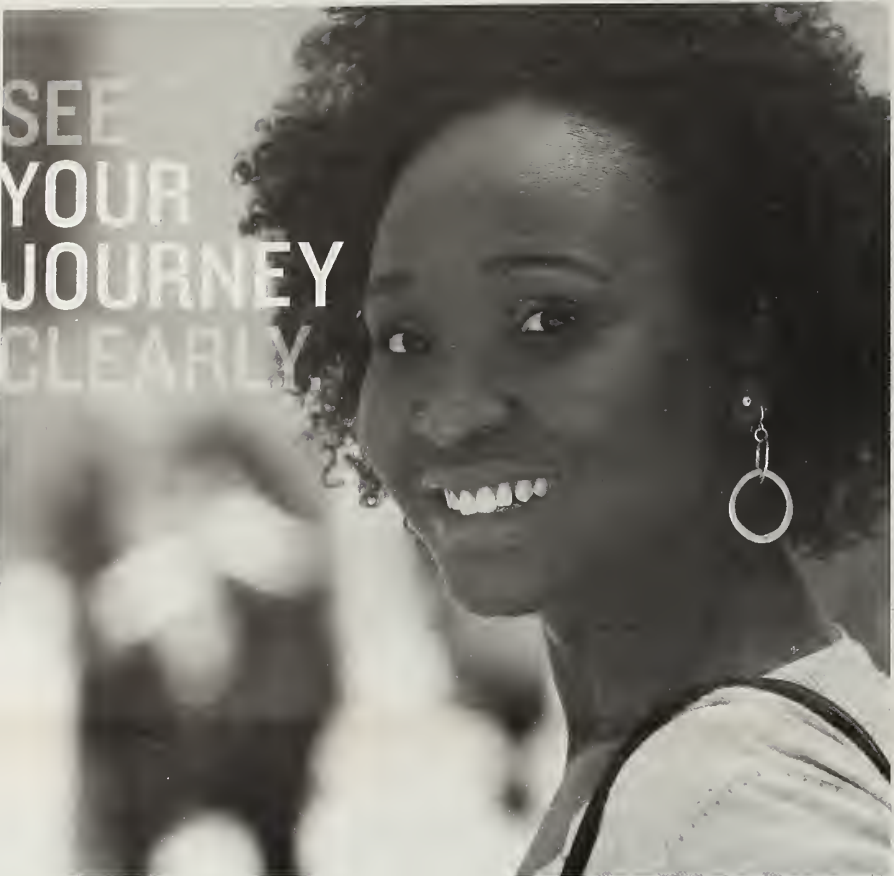
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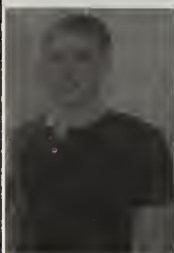
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No excuses for Cutler now that he has what he needs



BY LUKE SCIACCOTTA
Staff Writer

"Even with these new additions, however, Cutler and the Bears offense still performed statistically at the bottom of the league. Huge reasons for that was the offensive line still not being able to protect their quarterback."

wanted to go.

Now, with Emery at the helm of making sure Cutler has everything he needs to perform at an "elite" level, gave Cutler a few gifts by trading for Pro-Bowl receiver, and Cutler's best friend, Brandon Marshall. And Emery gave Cutler his former quarterbacks coach Jeremy Bates.

Even with these new additions, however, Cutler and the Bears offense still performed statistically at the bottom of the league. Huge reasons for that was the offensive line still not being able to protect their quarterback, the receiving core, other than Marshall, not being able to make

enough plays, and the coaching staff not focusing so much on the offensive struggles.

So in his second year as the Bears G.M., Emery made even larger changes to improve his team's offensive performance for the upcoming 2013 NFL season.

First, he fired Head Coach Lovie Smith and replacing him with new Head Coach, and offensive/quarterback guru, Marc Trestman. Trestman has stated that he, "Can't wait to get his hands on Cutler," in the hopes of improving the offense.

Next, Emery made two huge free agent signings by signing tight end Martellus Bennett to improve a mediocre tight end core and two-time Pro Bowler, left tackle Jermon Bushrod to protect Cutler's blind side.

Now this leaves Emery with many options on what he could do in this year's NFL draft. What he should do is continue to build on the offense by further protecting Cutler by drafting a starting guard or another tackle to making the offensive line one of the best in the league.

Men drop title game

BY LUKE SCIACCOTTA

Staff Writer

Even though they came just a bit short in the Region IV Championship game, the JJC mens basketball team put together another strong season as the Wolves finished with an overall record of record of 22-10, finishing second in the conference at 13-1.

The Wolves earned their way into the championship game with a 57-49 win over the College of Dupage on March 2, but fell in a heartbreaker 66-65 to Rock Valley on March 3. The Wolves led by double digits in the second half before they lost their point guard, Ben Daniel, to an ankle injury.

The Wolves started the year in a good way by winning seven of their first 12 games. The Wolves went on a brief losing skid by dropping their next three games. The third loss was a huge one to South Suburban College, 78-52.

After the South Suburban loss before the Christmas break and the beginning of the conference season, Head Coach Joe Kuhn pointed out what the team needed to do to get back on track.

"We didn't take care of the ball tonight," Kuhn said. "Hopefully we can heal up during the break and get ready for the conference season in January."

The healing quickly began as the Wolves won a remarkable 14 of their last final 15 games to conference rivals, including a 10-game winning streak. One of those wins included a blowout win against Madison College, 84-36.

After that win, Kuhn expressed his pleasure in his ball club's performance. "I really liked our approach to this game and thought the guys were very focused," Kuhn said. "Our defensive effort and ball movement was outstanding today."

JJC finished the regular season with a 21-9 record, which included a 12-5 home record and a 9-4 record on the road.

The Wolves winning season propelled them to the championship tournament game. In the 57-49 win against COD, Daniel led the Wolves with 19 points. Pierre Jolly had 13 points, while Antwan Hill finished with 8 points in the contest.

In the 66-65 loss to Rock Valley in the Region IV Championship game Hill had a team-high 12 points.

"This was a tough loss for our guys," Kuhn said. "I think that we did have a great season and am proud of our team."

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SPORTS



Pictured is JJC's Wolves baseball team in 2012. Due to weather, only three out of 12 scheduled games have been played this season. Photo courtesy of Athletics Dept.

Wolves look forward to a new baseball season in 2013

By LUKE SCIACCOTTA

Staff Writer

As the returning 2012 NJCAA Division III National Champions, the Joliet Junior College baseball team is looking to continue their winning ways this spring. But the Wolves will have to do it with a less experienced team this year.

With only six returning players from the 2012 squad, the Wolves will rely on many freshmen to step forward this season.

Couch Wayne King Jr. recognizes the challenge, but he has not changed his expectations for his team.

"We expect to be competitive," King said. "With 17 freshmen, these kids need to get their feet wet and have some innings under their belts."

The Wolves will have a few returning players for the 2013 season. NJCAA Division III Player of the Year Luke Andrade will be back in 2013. Coming off a season when he hit .396 with 20 doubles, 5 triples, 6 home runs and 67 RBI's, Andrade will be counted on to have another outstanding season in 2013.

Also, the 2013 outfield has two very experienced players returning with Dominic Olszta from Providence Catholic and Cody Krllich. "Our sophomores will need to carry the load early in the season," said King. "Austin Vazquez needs to win at least 9 games for us on the mound."

"(Catcher) Casey Papp played very well in the second half of last season and should carry that over to this year. And, Colin Hart will see plenty of action on the mound and (will be counted on to) keep us in the game every time he is out there."

With so many freshmen coming in for this season, the coaching staff appears confident in their recruiting job, even though it may be a building process to start.

"It is a quick turn over every year, so you have to recruit and bring in quality kids each year," King said. Although he is optimistic about the season, he is also realistic.

"I visualize a slow start to the 2013 season just because of the inexperience to our pitching staff," said King. "We have talent on the field, we can swing it some, have good team speed, and defense will be a must for us."

Regardless of the inexperience of this year's team, King believes his young pitching staff will have a lot to say about how far this team can go. But he has strong expectations for this year's staff.

"This might be the most inexperienced staff I have ever had here at JJC. This group has been working hard and will need to grow up in a hurry," King stated. "We try to improve each day and work our way through the season. We need to focus on today, not down the road."



Jameka Evans looks on as DuPage goes after the ball during their Jan. 30 game. DuPage won 63-38. Photo by Renee Ronzone

Lady Wolves season full of streaks

By LUKE SCIACCOTTA

Staff Writer

After winning their first game in the NJCAA Region IV playoffs on Feb. 27 against Milwaukee Area Technical College, 70-39, the Lady Wolves closed out their season with a 61-57 loss to College of DuPage in the Region IV Semi-finals on March 2.

The loss to COD left the Lady Wolves with an overall record of 12-19, but that did not reflect the improvement the Lady Wolves demonstrated during the season.

After a rough start to the season that saw their record fall to 3-12, the Lady Wolves came alive in conference play to finish the regular season with an 8-5 conference.

When evaluating this year's performance by the Lady Wolves, certain aspects stand out that led to the losing overall record.

The Lady Wolves began the season 0-3 with two devastating losses to Kirkwood (87-39) and Iowa Central (70-41), two teams that compete on a higher level of community colleges and represented significant challenges.

After the Iowa Central loss, Head Coach Shaun Sanderson was still maintaining a positive outlook as his team was struggling against tough competition to start the season.

"We are still looking to develop some chemistry amongst our team," Sanderson said. "Playing this tough competition should make us a better team in the long run."

However, Sanderson's hopes to get the season back on track took longer than he hoped as the Lady Wolves lost nine of their next 12 games, including four in a row at one point.

A huge reason for the team losing early in the season was its problem with turnovers, which limited its offensive opportunities. Sanderson cited that after their 62-43 loss to Malcolm X College.

"We still need work on taking care of the ball," Sanderson said. "Too many turnovers are costing us games."

However, JJC managed to run off some quality wins against conference opponents towards the middle and end of the season. After the Malcolm X loss, the Lady Wolves went on a five-game winning streak, including three home victories.

The Lady Wolves then won six of their next nine games.

After a canceled game against Triton College, the Lady Wolves finished off the year losing three of their last five games. In all, the Lady Wolves split their last eight games, going 4-4.

The Lady Wolves finished 7-9 at home and 4-9 on the road during the regular season, including their 8-5 conference record.

The Lady Wolves' 70-39 win against Milwaukee Tech was the second win over Milwaukee this season. The 61-57 loss to COD, while disappointing, was a moral victory of sorts. The Lady Wolves had lost by 25 and 19 points to COD earlier in the season.

The Wolves were forced to play the final several games of the season without one key guard, Briana McCurdy, which weakened their backcourt.

The Lady Wolves were led this year by sophomores Alana Warren, Jameka Evans, Brianna Marble and Brianna Turner, and freshmen Falon Edwards and McCurdy.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Dominic Olszta

The Wolves' Dominic Olszta has gotten off to a fast start in the 2013 baseball season. In a 12-1 victory in the home opener against Illinois Valley, Dominic Olszta went 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored. In a 6-5 loss to Triton College, Olszta recorded a triple and two runs scored. Against Morton College in a doubleheader sweep, Dominic went 2-for-3 in game one with a triple and 3 RBI's. In game two, he went 1-for-2 from the plate.



Stephanie Stanton

Freshman Stephanie Stanton, a freshman catcher/infielder from Joliet West High School showed that she's ready to perform at the college level during a recent road trip with the softball team. In a four-game trip to Jefferson College, Mo. Stanton collected three hits, including a home run for the Lady Wolves.

Dog wash benefits JJC student



Kate Muller personally greets a bloodhound during the Vet Tech dog wash on April 6.

Photo by Tyler Widdien

BY RENEE RONZONE

Staff Writer

"Hodgkin's lymphoma, it's like the best kind of cancer you can have," Kate Muller says cheerfully as she ruffles Lily's freshly groomed coat.

"Isn't that right?" she fusses the happy Leonberger, who smiles back with her tongue lolling out the side of her mouth.

Kate Muller was the person every dog wanted to meet at the dog wash, held April 6 at the Vet Tech building. After combing out enough hair to make a wig and speaking with Lily's owners Tina and Ken McComb, she enthusiastically showed us around the Vet Tech facilities. Muller was a student of the program until very recently, when her diagnosis of Hodgkin's lymphoma forced her to stop attending JJC.

"It was definitely a shock. We're taking this one day at a time. She was diagnosed three weeks ago and she's been in and out of treatment," Kate's mom said, seated at the entrance amidst a cashbox and various homemade goodies for sale.

The Vet Tech dog wash has been going on for years at JJC, normally benefiting animal shelters in the area. But when

See DOG on page 7

Special Olympics

Campus police hosting dinner

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

You can dine out for a cause on April 24 from 3-7 p.m. in the Main Campus cafeteria.

The JJC Campus Police are sponsoring a spaghetti dinner that will benefit the Illinois Special Olympics as a part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run. This event is the single largest fund raiser for the Special Olympics in Illinois.

More than 3,000 officers throughout the state participate each year, passing off the Flame of Hope for 1,500 miles. This year, the JJC police hope to raise more than \$4,000.

The Special Olympics in Illinois benefits over 21,000 disabled athletes. The program helps boost their confidence and social skills while encouraging exercise.

"Fundraising events are a great way to bring awareness to our charity and raise funds," officer Randall Graves said.

"The special significance that I personally have is that I believe Special Olympics activities help young children and children with disabilities in a physical, social, and intellectual way that enhances their lives and the lives of their families and friends."

He added, "I have been involved in fundraising for Illinois Law Enforcement for Special Olympics every year since 1990."

Those who want to support the benefit can buy a ticket in advance and pay \$6, while the carry out and dine-in price is only \$7.

Call (815) 280-2234 for more information.

Board welcomes two new members, one seat remains

BY RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

Unofficial results from the April 9 consolidated election for three spots on the JJC Board of Trustees confirmed two facts that were for certain: The first is the current Treasurer Andrew Mihelich's re-election, and the welcoming of trustee-elect Barbara K. Adams to the Board.

The second is that nothing is certain about the status of the third seat that was up for election, a seat that was vacated by the departure of Barb Delancy, who opted not to pursue another term.

Mihelich, a former administrator here at JJC, won his re-election with the highest number of votes with 18,608. Newcomer Adams of Joliet

tallied 17,257 votes coming in second place, securing a spot on the Board.

According to the Sun Times Daily Herald report on April 10, Will County Clerk Nancy Schultz Voots confirmed that some 870 ballots are yet to be counted with more still coming in.

With only 210 votes separating incumbent trustee Dan O'Connell from the current third place candidate Tina Markley, these uncounted ballots give incumbent O'Connell a realistic shot at catching the third place candidate Markley, and retaining his position on the Board.

The preliminary results that have been posted by the County Clerks within JJC's district do

not account for absentee votes or write in ballots on Election Day, and as often is the case with close elections, it will take time to gather all votes, discern any abnormalities and determine a winner.

"A lot more people are taking advantage of mailing in their votes now," O'Connell said. "So we'll have to wait and see."

O'Connell and Markley won't know until April 23 for all the ballots to be counted to determine which of the two will sit at the Board for the next six years.

O'Connell's position on the Board is to direct and report on the progress of the Building and Grounds Committee and its responsibilities for the renovation and construction

planned and already completed at the Main and City Center campuses.

Praising the Committee for its execution of its wide agenda for modernizing and improving student and faculty experience, O'Connell said, "I had a lot of help, a very good support staff, and we kept a tight reign on things."

The candidate O'Connell is up against, Markley, is an Asset Manager for Kensington Reality Advisor's, a Chicago based firm. She is a Joliet resident, a JJC alumni and mother of a current student. She also has an MBA in Real Estate from Roosevelt University.

Markley, who aims to draw

See TRUSTEES on page 10

EDITORIAL

Paper versus digital: the battle continues

With more pleasant and rainy spring days ahead, try dusting off your shelf and discover the books you

meant to read, but didn't. As it turns out, people still have a soft spot for the tangible when it comes to reading. While the sale of e-readers has increased, the American Association of Publishers released data on April 11 that suggested a six percent increase in the overall book market in 2012. While this may seem meager, keep in mind that e-readers are still only 21.67 percent of the market, behind paperbacks (though indie e-book sales have risen in a dramatic 70 percent increase). These statistics are interesting, but what does this tell us about how we value information? Are we really moving into the digital age, or are we still holding on to that dinosaur, the printing press? There are advantages and disadvantages to both mediums that should be considered, and we live

in an era where both are currently equal contenders on the battlefield.

Due to the toll paper consumption can have on the environment, JJC has launched initiatives to limit frivolous printer usage on campus. This effort is certainly not unfounded. I've heard some older professors make the case against the move toward minimal paper use, stating that having information printed in front of them is easier to manage.

Plus, pieces of paper can't crash or be corrupted like data files. This benefit is huge for those who aren't quite computer savvy or not up to speed on "going digital."

However, let's look at just how damaging paper production is to the Earth. According to an organization called Conservapree, one ton of non-recycled printing and office paper requires 24 trees.

The numbers become even more horrifying when

you take into account the book and newspaper industry. The Blazer is even an offender, with one ton of newsprint paper using 12 trees. When I look at all the extra stacks of issues in our office, I think about how wasteful that is.

So electronic publishing is a much cleaner and green way to publish, right? At face value, this is true. E-readers and other tablet devices allow endless amounts of text, pictures and video to be displayed, taking up as little space as possible. However, the electronic route comes with its own set of challenges.

The EPA estimates that more than two million tons of electronic waste is produced each year. It doesn't help that increased technological advances render more than 20 million computers obsolete every year. Disposing of e-waste can be hazardous, and sadly, the US ships most of its e-waste overseas to be picked through by

impoverished workers.

Many of these workers develop cancer and respiratory conditions due to exposure to substances like lead, mercury, sulfur and beryllium oxide (a component of thermal grease used on heatsinks for CPUs). This gives e-readers one unexpected red mark against them.

E-readers allow you to read in the dark, but are more likely to cause eyestrain. Books can provide a more well-researched account of a subject, taking away the question of reliability that Internet research poses.

Personally, I'm more old-fashioned than many of my peers. Reading articles online is a fleeting experience, with so many diversions present on the Internet it's hard to remain focused. Many of my generation are easily distracted. Reading a book doesn't come with that issue and allows you to keep turning page after tangible page.

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Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less.

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Why the world isn't mourning Thatcher



BY ALEX FORGUE

On April 8, Margaret Thatcher, who served as the United Kingdom's first and only female prime minister from 1979 to 1990, died from a stroke at the age of 87. In a normal situation, most people would be upset and mourn the loss of such an important person, but this is not the case; citizens of the United Kingdom and around the world are celebrating, and they have a reason to.

Thatcher took office and began her extreme-right wing reign over the country in 1979. Thatcher followed the Ayn Rand model

of the free markets and objectivism. She heavily deregulated the banks and the economy, causing inflation to double and unemployment to skyrocket to levels not seen since the Great Depression.

There is no doubt that Thatcher favored the wealthy over the poor. Although Thatcher cut taxes for everyone, the rich got higher tax breaks. Her regressive tax system was not her only attack on working-class people; Thatcher also did not believe in labor unions and passed heavy reforms that disbanded them.

Her war against labor unions was predominantly seen during the 1984 miners' strike. On March 6, the National Coal Board announced that it would close 20 mines causing a cut of over 20,000 jobs, this caused miners to become upset and declare a strike.

The strike lasted nearly a year, and was met with

heavy retaliation from the Thatcher government. Many strikers were treated as criminals and faced violence from the police. The strike eventually ended and it was seen as a win for Thatcher.

As a result of her policies, wealth inequality under Thatcher increased. Thatcher has been responsible for cutting numerous social services such as programs that feed impoverished children. Today, many of her policies still have an effect on the United Kingdom and around the world. Income equality continues to get worse as the cost of living and the amount in poverty continues to grow.

Thatcher was also conservative in her social values. In 1988, she created section 28 of the Local Government Act of 1988 which outlawed homosexuality and any acceptance of it. For many years under Thatcher, the

amount women earned for performing the same work as men decreased.

Environmentally, Thatcher was no different than her economic policies. She welcomed the open market with open arms and deregulated environmental protection.

Today "Thatcherism" lives on, not only in the United Kingdom, but the United States as well.

Congress continues to pass laws favoring corporations and the free market cutting back on both economic and environmental regulations.

Many state governors, especially those in red states, continue to push through legislations that seeks to weaken the power of labor unions. In addition, the increase in wealth inequality and the cutback in social services show that the United States is not too far from repeating the same mistakes that occurred under Thatcher.

'Damn you, auto correct!'

BY ALEX FORGUE
Staff Writer

We've all experienced auto correct sneaking its way into our sentences to ruin and confuse us, whether it's on our mobile phones or on the computer. What you may not know is that this kind of occurrence has a specific name that involves the California city, Cupertino. Wait, what?

The occurrence of auto correct making its way into our writing is known as the "Cupertino effect."

Now, this does not mean that this phenomenon originated in Cupertino, it's actually a much more interesting and amusing story than that.

Back in the late 1990s, computer word processors did not recognize the word "cooperate" as one word. It instead required users to spell it "co-operate," which by today's standards makes

both spellings correct.

When a user would type "cooperate," the computer would change the word to "Cupertino."

Many official documents and press releases have had this problem. For example, what was meant to be read as "The fact that Secretary General Robertson is going to join this session this afternoon in the European Union headquarters gives you already an idea of how close and coordinated this Co-operation is and this action will be" In the NATO Press Point of March 19, 2001 was actually written:

"The fact that Secretary General Robertson is going to join this session this afternoon in the European Union headquarters gives you already an idea of how close and coordinated this Cupertino is and this action will be."

However, Cupertino is not the only word that is

accidentally replaced. A story Reuters published back in 2005 replaced "Queen" with "Queen Elizabeth," causing the article to be written as:

"With its highly evolved social structure of tens of thousands of worker bees commanded by Queen Elizabeth, the honey bee genome could also improve the search for genes linked to social behavior. Queen Elizabeth has 10 times the lifespan of workers and lays up to 2,000 eggs a day."

When a newspaper turns "The police identified the suspects" into "The police denitrified the suspects," this would indicate that the police removed nitrogen from the suspects. This sounds painful and unlikely.

So the next time you are on your mobile phone and autocorrect and spellcheck sneak its way in, you should say "Damn you Cupertino!" instead of "Damn you auto correct!"

Easy plants to grow this year

By EMILY GAHAN
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Tomatoes: This is a no brainer. This garden staple grows in almost any soil and thrives in heat. There are over 125 varieties of tomato to choose from. Assortments include the huge dark-fleshed beefsteak to the yellow, pear-shaped fruits. Be sure to find out if a determinate or indeterminate plant suits you best. Determinate varieties thrive best in containers, and grow into bushy plants that need minimal support and fruit for a few weeks. Indeterminate plants are vining, and fruit continually throughout the season, provided they are kept upright by wire cages.

Carrots: Make sure the soil is loose before planting carrots. Carrot seeds are really tiny and much more of a pain to plant than grow. The seeds can wash away easily and germinate

slowly, so mark your rows by planting a fast germinating plant next to them (like lettuce). Don't wait too long to harvest. Pull the carrot once the top breaks through the soil.

Lettuce: Lettuce is another common crop for beginners, but it is not as easy to grow as the previous plants. Lettuce will require rich soil to thrive, so add organic matter (compost) to the soil before planting. It is best to start lettuce indoors in spring and transplant the seedlings to the garden in three weeks. Choose heat-tolerant varieties, like the buttery "Buttercrunch." Romaine varieties are also popular. If you do not choose heat-resistant varieties, they will bolt and will not taste good. Avoid "Iceberg" lettuce, since it is so easily bought in stores, also other varieties have a much higher nutritional value.

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Fair promotes holistic health

BY RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

Students and faculty making their way through the E-D on the concourse were greeted by the sounds of laughter and commotion as people spread out throughout the hallway. The smell of popcorn drifted through the air and the JIC Wellness Fair had begun.

The April 10 event, hosted by Amy Sims, coordinator of Student Activities and the Holistic Wellness Department, was the 18th annual occurrence of the fair, which featured exhibits from various local organizations, businesses and clubs, demonstrating and informing students on various ways of living a healthier life each year.

Loosely defined, holistic wellness is the combined practice of techniques that enable physical, mental and spiritual well-being, resulting in a healthier lifestyle. The fair featured a wide variety of vendors, offering their own wellness approach, everything from healthier dieting, to social and environmental activism, to various medicinal services offered throughout the community.

Each group had a table and area to set up their exhibit. Most offered brochures and general information about their cause, or even offered on-hand services or demonstrations.

Perhaps the biggest draw was free massages given by the Will County Health and Wellness Center, a clinic providing chiropractic, rehabilitation and other physical therapy services. John Kravarik was buoyant in encouraging students to visit the clinic.

"I know a lot of times chiropractic massages are covered through insurance, so it's great for students still on their family's plan," he reasoned.

Representing JIC was David Opon of the Fitness Center,

which will be adding three new courses this fall. HPR classes, which are credit courses, prove useful to students because as Opon explained, "I know a lot of students who transferred to a four-year college and come back and wish they could have taken these classes here because they're so much more affordable."

Other groups were non-profit organizations like The Red Cross, Veterans Assistance Commission for Will County and the American Cancer Society, spreading the word about the Relay for Life, which took place April 13 and 14.

Women assistance programs like Guardian Angels Community Services and Waterleaf Women's Center of Aurora, a facility providing guidance for women with unplanned pregnancies, were also prevalent at the fair.

Making a notable splash were the Southland Slashers, a roller derby team playing in a league against regional foes with names like Decatur Derby Dames, or the Beloit Bombshells.

"The game is more structured now than it used to be, more rules on how to best play, helps keep them from getting hurt," JIC alumni and Slasher Johanna Wyss said. The team is based out of Channahon, and plays its next

bout at the home rink Skateland on May 4.

With spring in full swing, the Will County Forest Preserve was also present. The preserve offers students a wide variety of outdoor activities, from trail hiking and biking, to fishing to bird watching. Lake Renwick Preserve is a critical nesting and feeding area for some of the regions great species of Herons and Egrets, and the District offers numerous opportunities to see these rare birds up close.

Others with an interest in angling had their ears perked as Ken Lowellen described fishing derbies at the Moine Reservoir.

"They catch a lot of pan fish like bluegill and crappie. And big bass too. Some are four to six pounds," she said.

The derby's offers prizes for best catches. The District works hard to make sure as many fish are safely released as possible.

The multitude of activities, exercises, and techniques promoted at the fair aimed to endorse obtaining greater health beyond what one expects to receive at a hospital or the inside of a prescription bottle. Holistic wellness is a combination of mind and body health with the goal of a greater and more fulfilling life.



Alumni Joanna Wyss (left) and Kristen Walkover represent roller derby team Southland Slashers during the Wellness Fair. Photo by Emily Gahan

25 years of international education celebrated

BY SARAH TSCHETTER

Staff Writer

While it felt like winter outside of school, the JIC International Fest brought spring indoors. It was welcomed after the chilly week and was enjoyed by everyone who came.

The festival was held on April 11 on the main campus Bridge and went strong for several hours. It was open to the public and sponsored by the International Education department.

There were several fun activities for everyone to partake in. The fest was a part of several events and lectures scheduled to celebrate JIC's 25th anniversary of international education.

For the majority of the event, the koto (a Japanese stringed instrument) and the shakuhachi (a bamboo flute) performers, Mariko Hosokawa and Michael Yuzen Firman respectively, played songs that made all of those in attendance hope for warmer days and for the trees to blossom leaves and flowers. Their music brought forth the essence of spring.

Hosokawa and Firman would switch off from time to time to give each other a break if they needed it. All of their pieces were delightful and well organized for the event. The audience was enraptured and happy just listening to them.

One of JIC's own teachers demonstrated Arabic calligraphy by writing peoples' names down

on a piece of paper in their choice of color. Everyone who participated walked away with their own name in a language different from their own.

A prospective JIC student decorated people's hands and arms with henna in beautiful mehndi. Her handy work raised a lot of questions from people who did not take part.

The food was served by the JIC Epicurean at 6 p.m. It entailed a collection of international cuisine set on traditional dishes. The smell of the different dishes blended and filled the air.

The evening passed quickly and everyone had fun. There are many hopes that the event will be held again next year. The next international event will be held on April 22. It will feature a lecture on zootherapy and traditional Asian medicine by Eileen McKece at noon in A2003.



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Blazer wins multiple journalism awards

BY RENEE RONZONE

Staff Writer

All the late nights and weekends spent on campus finally paid off for the hardworking folks here at the Blazer. On April 5, during the Illinois Community College Journalism Association conference held at the Hilton in Springfield, the Blazer staff was selected to receive 13 awards, including three first-place awards for individual excellence.

Thirteen colleges, separated into three divisions, attended the

conference. Division II is where JJC's student newspaper falls as a monthly publication from a college with over 5,000 students. Colleges competing in Division II included Illinois Central College, Rock Valley College and Wright College.

The Blazer won third place in General Excellence, behind Rock Valley College and Illinois Central College.

Emily Gahan won first place for her column from the December 5 edition, and Renee Ronzone won both first and second place for sports photos, as well as third place and an honorable mention

for photo spreads. Tommy Stokke won first place for his column on why JJC chose to cut football, as well as two second awards and a third place award for sports news and features.

"I'm very happy they got rewarded for all the hard work they do. You never know how judges are going to respond to your work, but when the staff receives thirteen individual awards, it tells you that they're doing good work," Advisor Bob Mareink said.

The Blazer staff arrived the day before the awards ceremony, visiting the Lincoln Museum

before returning to the Hilton to listen to keynote speaker Brian McKinney. McKinney has worked with the Sun Times in Springfield for over 25 years, and shared tips for young journalists to get ahead, such as learning to use social media and computers effectively. To avoid discouragement, McKinney urges, "Learn to be rejected. Rejection is not personal."

After the speech, students attending the event wandered around Springfield to find dinner and visit the capitol just a few blocks away. The Blazer has a friendly relationship with the

staff of the Herald, a Division III student newspaper published out of Harold Washington College, and spent the evening catching up together.

ICCJA cuts submissions for contest entries by mid-semester, which accounts for articles winning awards by writers no longer attending the college they wrote for. This recent outcome has been satisfying, but here at the Blazer we are working hard to bring an even more outstanding paper to the next competition, if we're there to accept the awards or not.

JJC hosts discussion pannel on sexual assault

BY KELSEI BERTHEAUME

Staff Writer

JJC is promoting sexual assault awareness in April. With this being the subject of discussion this month, the Holistic Wellness program hosted a sexual assault awareness panel to inform students about what sexual assault is and how it can be prevented.

Members of the panel were Cmdr. Melvin Cornelius from the campus police, Jonathan

Feit the Coordinator of Student Conduct, Sherri Morrow from the counseling department, Mildred Holmes, the current department chair of the counseling department and Samantha Gehrig a representative for the Guardian Angels Services. Gehrig is a sexual assault educator and an Illinois Images Product Coordinator at Guardian Angel. The panel defined sexual assault and the many different forms of

assault, with date rape being one of the forms talked about in the panel. Sexual violence, which includes forced sexual acts further than fondling was also discussed. People between the ages of 16 and 25 are the most likely to be assaulted since they typically involve alcohol. Assaults also usually are perpetrated by someone the person knows.

Victims go through the stages of grief experienced by anyone

going through a traumatic time in their lives. The panel made it clear that services for people who have been raped or assaulted are centered on their wishes.

If someone feels the need to prosecute, a good ally simply provides the resources a person needs to do so and stands by them. If they do not wish to prosecute, this should also be respected, according to the consensus of the panel.

Ways the community can get involved were discussed, with an emphasis on educating others about what consent means. As the entire panel said: "No means no."

If a student feels uncomfortable being around someone, they should never feel ashamed to seek outside help. If you think you know a victim or if you seek help, contact (815) 280-2673 to schedule an appointment or stop by the counseling office in A-1154.



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DOG from page 1

Muller, who was supposed to become a student worker in the program, was diagnosed. The dog wash was held for her benefit. Over 80 dogs of all sizes and shapes were washed on Saturday, raising a good amount of money for her fund.

"We hope to see her back in the spring semester of next year when she is finished with her chemotherapy," Jan Walters, an instructor with the Vet Tech program, said.

Muller is an artist and plans to use some of the downtime to tackle creative pursuits. Having been born premature and remaining bald until the age of three, she says she's used to a little hardship and baldness.

She's eagerly following in her grandfather's footsteps to become a Wildlife Rehabilitator, something that growing up on a

farm has helped nurture. When asked how many animals she helps care for, she replied after a moment of thought, "Over 100, easy."

Hodgekin's lymphoma is a cancer of the lymphatic system, and has some of the highest survival rates of any type of cancer.

"I've had a few down days, but I try to be optimistic. If you're down, you're not going to get better. I keep moving forward and I'm just having fun," Muller said. Her positive outlook and surprising amount of energy will help her through treatments. "I find it interesting how few young people there are (which is good) at the cancer places I've been to. I'm just like, alright, I'm gonna spice up these old peoples' lives a little."

If you want to help Muller and her family, stop by the Vet Tech facilities for information.



Kate Muller talks to owners Tina and Ken McComb about caring for their two Leonbergers, Lily and Sophie (not pictured).

Photo by Renee Ronzone

Students promote End It campaign

By EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

A group of students eagerly handed out flyers, stopping others as they passed on the "Bridge." With red Xs taped on their hands and faces, it was not immediately apparent what the aims of the students were. Were they straight edge? Were they expressing a new fashion trend? As it turns out, the red Xs symbolize an effort to stop human trafficking and slavery as a part of the End It campaign. The End It campaign is a recent national effort to raise awareness among college students. Based on their website, studies show that 200,000 people are forced into slavery of some sort in the US, with 17,000 added to that number each year. Globally, the numbers jump to 27 million people. The Superbowl is the single biggest event in the US that attracts pimps, which is something many people are not aware of. The Intervarsity Christian Fellowship set up the table on April 8 and continued to stop students and hand out flyers to raise awareness throughout the week. A presentation was given on April 11, highlighting the morality of slavery through discussion about God. "Either it's a 12-year-old child being taken advantage of, or a woman being forced into being filmed for a porn website, or a man forced to mine diamonds or be killed, the sin of human trafficking is real. It has many faces," said

Phil Nordquist, a part of the Fellowship's national chapter. After Nordquist's presentation, members of the audience could come up and read the stories of those who had been forced into slavery. The stories seemed to display a trend, with women desperate to provide for

themselves or their families and then being misled by thinking they would have a decent job. However, every one of the stories read had a message of hope. Each of the women in the stories was able to escape her situation and carry out a life of her own.



Phil Nordquist stresses that slavery must be eradicated. Photo by Emily Gahan

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Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

Around Campus



Student Harry Avery Jr., left, and Kimmar Ezell were both top performers for their teams during the Staff vs. Students basketball game on April 3.



Maggie Kelzer, a Student Leader with Intersarsity Christian Fellowship, speaks about slavery April 11 as a part of the nationwide End It movement.



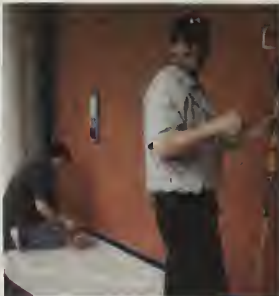
After a tough but well-played game, JJC students beat staff 57-43.



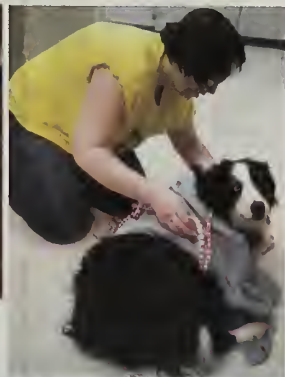
Amber, left, and Lucas, right, serve a rice and shrimp dish to student Giovanni Grimaudo during the International Food Bazaar on April 8.



Crowde* Into a stairwell, North Ehriar and Matt Bolton glance at the camera during the tornado drill on April Fools Day.



Matt, left, and Joe paint a wall on the Bridge a questionable shade of orange on April 11. When asked about the color, Matt said, "I didn't pick it out, that's for sure!"



Heidi, a student with the Vet Tech program, dries off Sadie during the Dog Wash on April 6.

Photos by Renee Ronzone

Around Campus



Agustin Rodriguez gets his name written in Arabic by language professor Olah K. Mehmood during the Middle East Fest on April 11.



Michael Firman plays the shakuhachi alongside Mariko Hosokawa on a traditional Japanese koto.

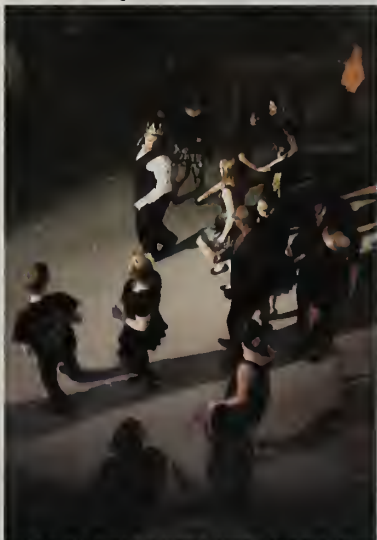


Prom King 'Oliver Clozeoff' sits with Queen 'Mia Sangria' before their first dance after being crowned.



Students cut a rug at JJC's Third Annual Gay Prom on Saturday April 13.

Left and right photos by Tyler Walden



Gay Prom attendees enjoy 'Electric Blue' while romancing the Electric Slide.



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Earn Your Bachelor's Degree

Sustainability a focus for April in celebration of Earth Day

BY EMILY GAHAN
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Is it easy being green? Find out this month as the Sustainability Committee hosts a slew of events in celebration of Earth Day on April 22. JJC is increasingly becoming a leader in sustainability among community colleges, so it's only natural (no pun intended) that the campus puts an emphasis on such matters.

Last year, the Sustainability Committee worked with community members to put on GR2012. Various green vendors attended the event, which was a fun experience for attendees. However, it will not continue this year. Instead, there will be smaller and more varied events taking place over the course of four weeks, with a green theme for each week.

There will be lectures, film showings and sustainable gardening tutorials, with a farmer's market to take place on April 17. There is also a planned community clean up in conjunction with the volunteer group, Helpers of Mother Earth, in downtown Joliet on April 20.

Week one has already come and gone, with speaker Rob Martin discussing clean water sources. Week two's theme is food. The documentary "Vanishing of the Bees" was shown on April 16. The film addressed the hardships bee keepers are facing as bees are dying off due to pesticide use or hive abandonment (known as colony collapse disorder). The rest of week two will finish off with Andy Neill presenting a Brown Bag lecture on the importance of Earth Day on April 18.

Look forward to the main

events next week.

"The biggest one is going to be on Earth Day. We have OSA, Student Government and Wordeater collaborating," said Antonio Franco, co-chair of Students for a Sustainable Future. "We're going to be giving away free stuff." The April 22 Earth Day event will take place on the bridge from 10-2 p.m. There will be tours of JJC's natural areas by the Cronin School House at noon the next day, and a showing of "Carbon Nation" at 6 p.m. in A-1061.

Another tour will feature JJC's newest efforts toward sustainability, highlighting on-campus geothermal heating and solar panels on April 24. The week will finish off with Mike Bryon discussing sustainability in a suburban setting on April 25 at noon in T-1001, while a recycled

arts and crafts show takes place until 2 p.m.

Week four will feature climate as a theme. On April 30, there will be a speaker discussing the Climate Reality Project at noon in T-1002 and afterwards, the documentary "Gasland" will be shown in A-1061 at 6 p.m.

"We're working so hard,"

Franco mentioned. Students for a Sustainable Future is searching for new members to get involved. Franco encouraged students to check out the events and educate themselves about the need to create a cleaner and more environmentally-friendly society.

TRUSTEES from page 1

on her real estate background, described her philosophy in her campaign pledge: "I know the importance of fiscally responsible board members. Throughout my career, financial review and analysis has been essential in making sound decisions... my fiduciary responsibility will be to you the Joliet Junior College district taxpayers and students."

Trustee-elect Adams, also an elected committeewoman in Joliet Precinct #19, is a graduate of National Lewis University with a Master's in Education. She described her stance in her campaign statement: "I believe in the need to spend within ones' means; being fiscally responsible and accountable for the community's tax dollars."

Both candidates ran on a platform for fiscal responsibility, and were endorsed by the Will County Liberty Club, a conservative and libertarian political action committee based in Plainfield.

Voter participation in the consolidated election was low. Mysuburbanlife.com, a western Chicago news site, reported that only 16% of registered voters casting ballots in Will County. Several other factors played into the results of this election as rain may have hampered some voters from coming out.

Lack of available information seemed to be a problem as well.

"I was getting calls from people wondering how to obtain candidate information," said Kelly Rohder, JJC's Director of Communications and External Relations.

When the dust settles come April 23, the board will know if Markley can hold onto her position and overtake O'Connell's seat, or if O'Connell can defend his current position.

Asked what he'll do if re-elected, O'Connell responded confidently, "Just keep doing what we're doing. I think the community has a high opinion of the college and we ought to keep it that going."



Jason Krastins, right, and Antonio Franco, co-chair for Students for a Sustainable Future, pose with adviser Maria Rafae during the Wellness Fair on April 10.

Photo by Emily Gahan

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—Moxwell Baumboch, sports management major and marketing minor from Elmhurst, Illinois

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Gore and guts for Evil Dead

Great action, but fails to live up to original

BY SARAH TSCHETTER

Staff Writer

While gore and scares were present, this year's "Evil Dead" reboot fails to live up to the expectations of fans of the 1981 original by Sam Raimi.

Raimi's film is based on an earlier film of his, the prototype, "Within the Woods" (1979). The short helped him to build up interest of potential investors. The 1981 production of "Evil Dead" is considered to be one of the greatest horror films of all time.

The 2013 adaptation of the film has had mixed reviews since its theatrical release on April 5.

The plot of the film is pretty basic: A group of five friends go into the woods, stay in a cabin, one of them recites some incantations despite the warnings and bad things start to happen. It is all standard horror film procedure.

In order to help curb her drug addiction, Mia (Jane Levy) and her friends vacation in the forest. The group is comprised of her estranged brother David (Shiloh Fernandez), his girlfriend Natalie (Elizabeth Blackmore) and their friends Olivia (Jessica Lucas) and

Eric (Lou Taylor Pucci).

They stay at a cabin for their retreat. In the basement, they find a book bound in what viewers are to assume is human skin. It is also wrapped in plastic and barbed wire.

Because a horror film would not be frightening if they did not do the one thing we know they shouldn't, they read the book. After Mia has a rather intimate encounter with a demon, the blood and killings begin.

The effects, while gory and horrific, are wonderful to watch and pique the interest of the audience. The best thing was, the camera did not cut away at the good parts. Cue the cringes and shudders for the more squeamish of us.

However, the final fifteen minutes includes best bloodbath anyone has ever seen. The gratuitous violence is what makes the film, sadly.

The humor is dry and many have heard it all before. The script falls flat of the original. It is generic and repetitious.

The Easter eggs (hidden messages, inside jokes or features in media) in "Evil Dead" are great nods towards the original and are fun to look for.

The recording tape, the best

feature of the original, can only be heard during the credits, much to the disappointment of the original fans, myself included.

If you like blood splatters and gore galore, this is the perfect film for you. If you're looking for a beautiful tribute to "The Evil Dead" franchise, this is not it.

The film makes for a great night out with some friends, but it is not meant for children or for those like me with soft stomachs. And the lead actors are wonderful. It has the potential to become another cult classic.

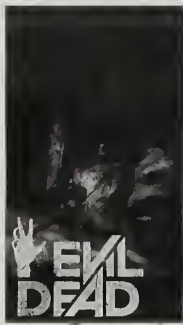


Photo courtesy of Ghost House Pictures

Paramore releases new self-titled album

BY SARAH TSCHETTER

Staff Writer

Since their formation, Paramore has released four albums, three extended plays, two live albums, 14 singles, one video album and 14 music videos. The latest album, "Paramore," was released on April 9.

Their fourth album follows a different path than their previous ones, aimed towards being on the number one spot on the Billboard list of the top 200 albums. And that is only on the first week of release.

With the departure of the Farro brothers, Williams took the band (composed of herself, Davis and rhythm guitarist Taylor York) in a different direction.

When asked by Ashley Clements from Gigwise.com why they decided to do a self-titled album, Williams said, "The self-titled aspect of the whole thing is definitely a statement. I feel like it's not only reintroducing the band to the world, but even to ourselves... By the end of it, it felt like we're a new band."

"Paramore" is more pop-punk than rock or adult contemporary, as their previous albums were. It has an 80s feel to the vast majority of it.

The album opens with "Fast

in My Car," an upbeat song with lyrics speaking about the split. Some songs, like "Ain't It Fun," are jazzy and fun to listen to. "Still into You" is Williams' anthem to all of her high school female fans.

There is some good breathing room from these fast-paced tracks with three ukulele songs. All three interludes are a very nice break from the rest of the album.

The two lead singles, "Now" and "Still into You," are sure to be hits with their listeners, old and new.

Out of all the songs, "Daydreamer" is the most with a nostalgic feel to it. It reminds many listener of Blondie. And, in fact, Williams said she wrote while listening to the pop singer's "Greatest Hits" on repeat.

Their revolutionized sound does not appeal to all listeners, however. Some fans have criticized them on how much they have changed since their first started, feeling that the band caved in to the pop realm.

There are others who believe that they took a chance by diving into a territory unknown to them and feel proud that they still like the band. They feel like the risk that was taken will lead to a great opportunity in the future.



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Madoka Magica: not just sparkles and cuteness

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor in Chief

Don't let the cutesy appearance of this series fool you. *Puella Magi Madoka Magica* is marketed to anime fans as a frilly, typical magical girl series a la *Sailor Moon*. But it has an unexpectedly darker take on the genre that leaves the viewer stunned with dramatics and plot twists that increase in intensity with every episode. The 12-episode series begins on a relatively cheerful note, centering on pink-haired middle school student Madoka Kaname. Through voiceovers, she describes herself as unremarkable with no special talents while admiring her friends and family. A mysterious new student named Homura Akemi is enrolled in her class. Homura is intense with a cold personality, and is oddly protective of Madoka. After a strange conversation where Homura warns her to stay as she is or else she lose everything she holds dear, Madoka realizes Homura was in her dream the night before, fighting alone against a massive enemy. When Madoka and her best friend Sayaka go to the mall to find a CD for Sayaka's crush,

Madoka hears something calling for help in her mind. When she goes to investigate, she discovers Homura attacking what appears to be a white bunny-like creature. Confused, Madoka protects the injured creature from Homura. As it turns out, the creature refers to itself as Kyubey and can communicate telepathically. As a reward for saving it, Kyubey offers Madoka to make a contract with it and become a magical

girl with inhuman powers, which turns out to be what Homura (already a magical girl) is trying to prevent. Kyubey offers one wish to those seeking to be magical girls. The type of wish a girl asks for determines the type of powers she will be granted. Being a magical girl in *Madoka Magica* is not all sparkles and transformation sequences. Once the character of Mami Tomoe, a magical girl classmate of

Madoka's, appears, it is apparent that fulfilling the role of magical girl is a burden of life or death. Each magical girl must fight witches, or manifestations of the world's despair. When making the contract with Kyubey, each magical girl receives a soul gem. Soul gems become more tainted when powers are used and must be purified periodically by a grief seed, an item that witches drop once they are defeated. It seems

simple enough, but perhaps the best way to describe this series is that nothing is as it seems. While many anime series can be superficial and bubbly, *Madoka Magica* is not. Plot and character development unfold rapidly together, and each episode plumbs new depths of what it is to be a magical girl. Each character suffers in some way for their choices, even if they mean well. And with Kyubey withholding information from the girls, is making a contract worth it in the end? Will Homura be able to prevent Madoka from making a contract with Kyubey? There are so many mysteries to unlock in this anime. The animation in this series is flawless, with architecturally creative environments a delight to the eye, as well as the colorful and chaotic mixed-media witches' labyrinths. The musical score is not cheesy or over the top, but elegant and reflective of the girls' hopes and sorrows. Magical girl series might be an acquired taste in anime, but *Madoka Magica* stands out as a heart-wrenching slice-of-life experience. If you enjoy the series, keep an eye out for the epilogue movie, set to be released this fall.



Photo courtesy of Zerochan.net

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Biggest anime convention in Midwest set for May

BY BRANDY ANDERSEN
Staff Writer

An upcoming event for geeks, gamers and anime fans is just around the corner! What is it you ask? It's Anime Central (or ACEN).

For those who don't know what anime is, it includes Japanese animated shows and books. It is a convention that is held annually three days out of the year, and will be taking place May 17-19 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare and the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois.

This convention was proclaimed the 3rd largest anime convention in North America as of 2012. This event is a place where people who share this common hobby, interest or passion can come and be themselves. There will be so many games and events taking place, it will be nonstop fun the whole weekend.

What can you do while you're there? ACEN offers anime viewing rooms, autograph sessions, concerts, dances and raves, gaming of all sorts (arcade, role play, table top, trading cards, video), a formal ball, karaoke, masquerade and Q&As. There are also places where you can purchase merchandise and art

located in a place called the dealer's room and the artist alley.

As well as programming events

to check out and participate in, during this time international guests come to hold panels or

workshops where you can ask the guest speaker questions and they will answer and give advice.

These guests usually range from voice actors to business groups, advertising their products and how they make them.

Artist Eric Marusek is holding a large viewing event in the main hall in the dealer's room. He is known for his amazing chalk work. Each year since 2006 he has participated in drawing murals on the ground as a free art show attraction. This artist travels around the United States performing his amazing art skills.

With something so big coming into the area near you, how could anyone pass up this amazing event? All ages are welcome to participate in this huge event for \$60 for the entire weekend, not including admission to extra events like dances. It has always been an amazing experience for me each year I go; maybe it will for you too.



Cosplayers Ken Gilmore, Nara Sullivan, Marly Davis, Jenny Hargrave, and Katie Tabaris pose for the camera.

Photo by Brittney Andersen



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Silent Hill returns with more horror and scares

BY MICHAEL SCHULLER
Co-Editor-in-Chief

If you liked the original Silent Hill movie from 2006, then you will definitely enjoy this newest installment. It includes many of the same elements and cinematography as the last movie, as well as returning characters and monsters. Remember Pyramid Head? This iconic villain is back and as wicked as ever.

"Revelation" takes place after the events of Silent Hill with Heather Mason (Adelaide Clemens) and her father Harry (Sean Bean). Heather is an outcast from normal society, with her and her father forced to be constantly on the move to stay one step ahead of the law as well as her waking nightmares.

As an evil and powerful force follows the two, Heather is finally drawn to Silent Hill and has to face the demon Alessa, as well as powerful cultists who fight her. The darkness follows her strongly, the same one that causes the walls to peel away and bloodthirsty monsters to rise. This adds more to an already full plate.

Unlocking the secrets of her past holds the key to overcoming

all of these obstacles and saving herself and others. The cult and the darkness are strong and Silent Hill is unforgiving. Will Heather leave this cursed place in the fog? Don't get me wrong, "Revelation" is a solid movie.

With a different director than the previous Silent Hill movie, it really attempts to capture the psychology and impact the previous one had. While not surpassing Silent Hill, it's still something solid to watch if you enjoyed it and wanted to know what happened after the cliffhanger ending.



Photo courtesy of Universal Studios

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April Horoscopes



Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 19)

Information received today creates your imagination and encourages you to start a new artistic or creative project. Stories and pictures all could come together in your mind and form an inspired idea that could change your life.



Pisces (Feb 20-March 20)

Adventure is the word for today. A lot of physical and mental energy, as well as enthusiasm, might lead you to aim for goals that others consider too risky or unrealistic. Don't let their opinions stop you. After giving each idea an objective assessment, if you still believe you want to try, start looking into it seriously. People have probably made stranger dreams than this come true!



Aries (March 21-April 19)

New career goals may come your way with the current aspect. Opening up possibilities you may not have considered. This could be very exciting. It might even work toward the fulfillment of childhood dreams that you abandoned long ago. They may involve the arts, modern technology, or both. The only downside is that you might work too hard and get exhausted. Pace yourself.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

This is one of those days in which you may ask for five minutes to complete a certain task and an hour later finally finish whatever you set out to do. Keep in mind that this isn't necessarily a bad thing. Things are taking you longer than expected not because you're inefficient but because you're more passionate than usual about what you're doing.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Don't be afraid of the free today. Instead, embrace it and incorporate more of it into your life. Certain people may intimidate you at first, but that doesn't mean you should run away from the scene. More than likely this feeling of intimidation is a signal that there's something you need to learn from that person or situation. Stick around and pay attention.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

This month you'll be assertive and go after your career goals. Don't sit back and wait for things to happen. You now have a unique opportunity to take charge and make changes, but you'll have to be assertive and it might not be easy.



Leo (July 23-Aug 22)

Travel and adventure could be on your mind, perhaps more than ever. If you haven't looked a break to an exotic paradise or something similar, perhaps you'll be tempted to do so. You may find it hard to focus on your job. Your mind may be filled with thoughts of faraway places and the desire to escape from your everyday life. It's possible that a dynamic relationship may develop when you move out of your comfort zone.



Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22)

Finding balance in your world will be no sweat once you get into the groove. Waking up is likely to be the most difficult part of the day, but once you conquer that incredible feat, you should be fine. Try taking a cold shower instead of a warm one this morning. This will serve to open up your mind and get your blood pumping when you need it most.



Libra (Sept 23-Oct 23)

You may feel like the smallest issue is suddenly a life or death situation. Depending on your mood, you may think you're on the brink of complete disaster, but the next minute you may be soaring high in the clouds. The drama that surrounds you is more a product of your reaction to your environment rather than the environment itself.



Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)

Things may come to you more easily than usual today. This is a sign that you're on the right path and doing things correctly. Life shouldn't have to be full of stress and heartache. If something isn't flowing smoothly, you should consider taking a new approach toward it. Keep a smile on your face and be respectful of the people around you.



Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)

Check your messages often. Someone is trying to contact you and you may keep missing each other by minutes. It's important to connect with this person to take care of some matters. If your objectives are clear, things should work out fine.



Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)

Life at home looks busy, and could also be disruptive. There seems to be a lot going on that could involve a change to the family dynamic, perhaps moving or remodeling. It's possible that you have a lot of children keeping you active or perhaps a new and boisterous pet. You might also be eager to change certain aspects of your place in order to reflect changes to your lifestyle. If you're single, entertaining may bring you a romantic opportunity. Will you take it?

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Rose needs to get back into the game for Bulls

BY LUKE SCIACOTTOTA

Sports Editor

It has certainly become clear to the Chicago Bulls organization, the fans and more importantly his teammates, that Derrick Rose is not doing any favors for himself or the team this year.

Rose has failed to complete the final stage of his rehab and get back to playing games. And it seems apparent that he has no intention of finishing his rehab this year.

After being medically cleared a month ago, the Bulls medical staff and organization were expecting Rose to complete the final phase to return to game shape from a torn ACL he suffered in game one of the Eastern Conference Quarterfinals last year against the Philadelphia 76ers.

And after numerous accounts from certain players and journalists watching him practice, it seems obvious that Rose is the best player on the practice court, cutting, dribbling, taking jump shots, defending his players and even going up for dunks, off his surgically-repaired left ACL mind you.

The charismatic color commentator for the Bulls, Stacey King, even stated himself that Rose is "The best player out there."

Now that's by saying Rose is

going up against the second string or third string players and the first string players who are a little banged up at the moment.

Nevertheless, these are professional athletes that are quick and mobile enough to keep up with Rose. They are certainly pushing him to his limits in practice in order to get him to return.

Now, as the regular season is coming to a close, it seems Rose will not return to play a couple of games before the playoffs start. That's the most frustrating part of this whole situation.

He has said over and over again, "I'm coming back when I'm ready," or "It's all in God's hands now."

Personally, it's one lame excuse after another; I highly doubt God is simply controlling the Rose's own mental hurdles he needs to get through.

It comes down to this, the only way Rose will ever return to "110 percent" as he says he wants to be at, or the MVP caliber player he was two years ago, is just simply by sucking it up and going out and playing the game at full speed.

Every single player on that team is waiting for his return because they just have carried the Bulls as far as they are going to go without him. The time is now, if Derrick wants to be healthy heading into next season.

Lady Wolves off to a rocky start Team still getting in the swing of things

BY LUKE SCIACOTTOTA

Sports Editor

The JIC Lady Wolves softball team has started their season not the way they wanted to with an overall record of 7-15 and a conference record of 6-6 through April 6.

The Lady Wolves opened up the season by losing four straight games in two series against Jefferson College on March 15 and 16.

The first series against Jefferson resulted in two losses, 4-0 and 5-1. In game one, JIC was shut out with a 4-0 decision. Stephanie Stanton had one hit for the Lady Wolves. In game two, JIC fell by a score of 5-1. Kristen Arndt had two hits including a double for the Lady Wolves. Stephanie Stanton and Miranda Lawson both had one hit in the contest.

JIC dropped another pair of games to Jefferson College by scores of 16-1 and 12-0. In game one, Becky Stellwagen had two hits. Stephanie Stanton had a solo home run for Joliet. In game two, Kristen Arndt had the lone hit.

Manager Emily Marino has been searching for some type of answer to the team's early struggles. "We are a young team

so the season started out a little tentative," Marino said. "It's been hard to get in swing of things with the weather and also we have had several injuries to starters that have hurt us the last week or so."

The hardships continued in the Lady Wolves' next four games in two series against College of Dupage and South Suburban College. JIC split two games against Dupage as they won one game 4-1 but lost by a score of 10-5. And in two games against South Suburban, JIC were crushed by scores of 14-1 and 8-4.

There have been some obvious mishandlings with each game for JIC, especially on defense. The team has given up 171 runs

through 22 games, an average of 8 runs per game.

And the inability to score has not helped matters for Joliet as they have just scored 99 runs through 22 games, an average scoring of 4 to 5 runs per game.

Even though the season has not gone the way the Lady Wolves anticipated, Marino expects more heading forward. "We have several leads in late innings. We need to improve on holding the lead and closing out the game," Marino stated. "I expect us to continue to improve each game and learn from previous mistakes."



The weather has hindered games this season, but the wind and light rain on April 12 did not keep the Lady Wolves from playing Rock Valley.

Photos by Renee Ranzome

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SPORTS



Dominic Olszta steals third base during the game against the Panthers from Olive-Harvey College on April 12.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

Men's baseball starts off 2013 season strong

By LUKE SCIACCOTTA

Sports Editor

The JJC men's baseball team is off to a good start this season as the squad has a 14-7 record overall with a 5-1 record within their division as of April 7.

The Wolves started off the year winning their season opener against Illinois Valley Community College on March 15. A 12-1 victory was sparked by Dominic Olszta leading the Wolves going 2-for-4 with a double and two runs scored. Shane Hart picked up the win on the mound for Joliet. Hart allowed one earned run, two hits, and three walks over six innings.

However, the next game, the next day, the Wolves fell late in a game against Triton College as they lost by a score 6-5. Kenny Milosovic had two hits, while Dominic Olszta tripled in the contest. Austin Vazquez struck out 10 batters in his five innings on the mound.

Manager Wayne King quickly pointed out this late game struggle against Triton. "We need to learn how to win the close games and hold on to a lead."

The Wolves recognized their manager's words and rebounded to a 10-4 record over Morton College, Kankakee, and Illinois Valley through March 30.

When asked who the reasons

for this great start are, King replied, "Olszta is tearing it up right now. Hart, Vazquez, Wojnarowski and Hart have been doing a solid job for us. Milosovic has also been pretty solid for us."

Scoring has been coming for the wolves through the first 21 games as the Wolves have averaged six to seven runs a game. Olszta has been hitting the ball all over the place for the Wolves and was named NCAA Player of the Week this past week.

The Wolves starting pitching staff, lead by Hart, Vazquez, Wojnarowski and Hart, have also been a big part of the 14-7 record, allowing an average of three runs through 21 games.

King certainly notices a few advantages, as well as disadvantages, that the Wolves seem to possess against opposing teams.

"The freshmen are coming along pretty well so far," King said, "We had our first bout with injuries, where guys had to sit for 3-4 games and others had to play and even move around positionally."

When asked about what he expects from the team this year after a great start, King replied, "Still early, not sure. Weather is not helping us get into a routine yet. We still need to improve in many areas as we continual to move on."



Luke Andrade crosses home plate on April 12. The final score was 16-2.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Nick Fleischauer

Freshman Nick Fleischauer helped the Wolves to a 5-0 victory against Milwaukee Area Technical College on April 7. He homered and singled in the contest finishing with 3 RBI's. In a 16-2 win over Olive-Harvey College on April 12, Fleischauer had an RBI double for the Wolves. Fleischauer had two hits against Madison College in a 2-1 loss on April 13, and had an RBI double against Moraine Valley Community College on April 14. He currently has a .316 batting average.



Karli Beauchamp

Sophomore pitcher Karli Beauchamp helped the Lady Wolves to 12-2 and 8-3 victories over Harper College on April 13. In game two, Beauchamp struck out 11 to pick up her sixth victory of the season. She helped her cause at the plate with three hits including a single, double, and home run, knocking in three runs. Beauchamp currently has 87 strikeouts on the season.

Shriners accept donation

Student Gov. helps children's hospital

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Many know the Shriners as the people at parades wearing unusual hats and driving little cars. However, the organization is so much more than that.

On April 25, the Shriners visited JJC to accept a \$1,069 donation, raised by Student Government's Jail and Bail fundraiser. Those walking out of A building that day could see the paddy wagon and fire truck the Shriners brought along.

The benefits are set to go towards the Shriners Hospital for Children in Chicago. The hospital treats children from around the country, regardless of their family's ability to pay for treatments. The hospital treats children for cleftlip and palate, spinal injuries, burns and neuromusculoskeletal



Shriners members pose with JJC's Student Government outside of the Campus Center to receive a donation for their children's hospital.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

See SHRINERS on page 6

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof wraps up theater season

BY RENEE RONZONE

Staff Writer

Theater-goers who knew nothing of this Pulitzer Prize-winning play written by Tennessee Williams were in for an intense surprise when they came to see the JJC theatre's latest production, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*.

Set on a cotton plantation in Mississippi, the play opens with Maggie, played by Paige Bassi, jibbing on her brother-in-law's children for being "no-neck monsters" to her husband, Brick, played by Brody Reed, spurs her on with great disinterest amidst steady drinking. Maggie wends her way through topics both personal and casual, punctuated by non-committal remarks from Brick, until his deceased friend Skipper is mentioned.

At first hinted with a cold, terrifying look from Brick earlier caught by Maggie in a mirror, the tone of the play here changes as Maggie admits she can't help but touch a sore. By

this point, it's been revealed that there's already cause for great stress, as Brick's father Big Daddy is dying of cancer and only he and his wife, Big Mama, are kept unaware.

From this point, the drama steadily unfolds as the cause for Brick's drinking problem is unwillingly explored and the 'mendacity' of everyone is revealed. Greed is one of the many themes throughout the play, embodied by Brick's brother, Gooper, and his nosy and pregnant wife Mae who want to secure Big Daddy's riches for themselves.

Mae, more commonly referred to as "Sister-Woman," was played by Sylmarie Soto, who enjoyed the departure from past roles as protagonist.

"I don't normally get to play an evil character; people were saying 'I hate you!' and I was like thank you!" she exclaimed.

The title of the play refers to Maggie, or 'Maggie the Cat,' who came from an impoverished background and pulled herself

up through the ranks of society. She's also desperate to secure herself some of Big Daddy's wealth, but not out of greed. She wants to ensure their own survival, especially because Brick's alcoholism and her childlessness, as well as the manipulations of Mae and Gooper, threaten to lose them their inheritance.

Because of the fact he refuses to sleep with her for reasons related to Skipper, she feels "all the time like a cat on a hot tin roof." When Brick taunts her to jump off, she states her intent to stay for as long as she can.

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof was a delight to watch even with the heavy atmosphere and intricate drama. The play was split into three acts and took place entirely in Maggie and Brick's bedroom, with additional action happening off to the sides of the set amidst ethereally lit swaths of gauzy fabric.

"Every single person gave 110% of themselves for each rehearsal and performance,"

director Nicki Blowers wrote. "I felt they were able to give convincing, heartfelt, realistic and truthful performances for the characters they portrayed."

Indeed, the actors operated naturally within the lives of their characters, something that successfully drew the audience

in alongside Williams' use of repetition and lyrical dialogue.

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof was the last major production for the 2012-2013 season, but look forward to another season starting in Fall 2013, sure to bring more performances by the talented JJC theatre department.



Maggie the Cat (Paige Bassi) looks on as Brick (Brody Reed) hears an appeal from Big Mama (Ludmilla Luchek) to put down his drink. Photo by Renee Ronzone

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EDITORIAL

Younger generations should run for Congress

Looking back in the history books, we see that from the 1950s until the 1970s youth were rebellious and fought for progressive change. Sadly, this movement like all movements, eventually faded out, and the movement of progressive youth ceased by the 1980s.

Looking back when the movement was alive, the youth fought for the right to vote at the age of 18, queer rights, women's rights and for peace and the environment; and many of those viewpoints began to exist in legislative policies.

Activism of the youth has risen tremendously over the last few years, and I believe part of that increase came from the concept of "change" that every candidate offered during the 2008 election. Then there is the growing cost of tuition.

Occupancy has been led by the youth, who at the same time have been learning from the older activists who were the counter-culture in the 60s and 70s. What bewilders me is that for some reason our lawmakers feel like that when someone turns 18, they have the political consciousness to vote, but not run for office as if the two things don't

relate to each other at all.

As someone who is 19 years old and has involved himself in campaigns against poverty and violence, as well as in movements like Occupy, I have experienced and learned so much from the interactions between people that I would have never gotten from simply watching the news, going to some fancy law school or watching a political debate.

Many young people were told by their elders to just simply accept racism and don't risk any danger, but instead those young people formed groups like Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

The problem is that we haven't moved past the stigma that young people don't understand the world yet and only have egoistic motives to their actions and viewpoints. But look at how young people have been affected by the current economic crisis; young people face higher unemployment and higher tuition costs and many teenagers have been forced to get jobs in order to help their parents provide food for them and

their younger siblings.

As I have been involved in actions and campaigns against higher tuition costs, I've met people who can't afford college who are working, and yet can't get financial aid because each year the government, on both the federal and state levels, keep on cutting back financial resources to students. These are the stories that you don't hear on the news.

Not allowing my generation into Congress makes us unrepresented. Congress has shown no interests in fixing the student-debt crisis or the high unemployment of young people. The only time politicians have shown any interests in the issues of the youth is during the election when they want the youth to vote and volunteer on their campaigns.

The youth today are more progressive and do favor things like gay rights, women's rights, income and wage equality, low-cost or free education and healthcare, laws and protections preventing racism and sexism, especially in education and with the way that the police treat people.

Until we allow these progressive thinkers into Congress, the progressive ideologies that the left holds will continue to disappear as the right continues to overturn things like the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and Roe v. Wade.

Young people are usually the innovators of society; they haven't been subjected to the doctrine of boundaries and the mindset that "things are the way that they are and there's no need to change it" yet. Look at people like Steve Jobs or Bill Gates who in the 70s help push our technology far beyond what anyone could have dreamed of.

A more recent example would be websites like Facebook or Twitter created by young people who had an innovative idea.

Now, let's ask ourselves what would happen if we were to put progressive and innovative youth into our government. Maybe they would be able to come up with ideas that no one would have thought would have worked.

Until we allow young people into Congress, a whole generation of thinkers and citizens are not having their voices heard.

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or of the administration of Joliet Junior College.

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The art of moving on: saying goodbye to JJC

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Saying farewell is always bittersweet, with varying amounts of nostalgia inevitably attached. From moving out to a different state, to ending a relationship, our experiences continue to shape our realities throughout our whole lives.

For some students, this is their last semester at JJC. There is so much variation when it comes to the goals of the student body. Some are graduating and starting their careers, others are transferring to universities to continue their education. Some students are moving out of their childhood homes for the first time, me included.

Many of the Blazer staff are among those moving on

from JJC. I am transferring to another university this fall, along with fellow editor Michael Schuller and photo editor Renee Ronzone. Renee and I will both be attending University of Illinois at Chicago while rooming together, majoring in Anthropology and English respectively.

Michael will move on to North Central College, majoring in Music Education. The wonderfully well-organized Sarah Lake will also not be continuing her duties as ad manager next semester.

I am ecstatic about all of us transitioning into the next chapters of our lives. We have spent many hours writing last minute emergency articles, wrestling with unruly computers and making sub sandwiches a food

group. Like myself, you will surely remember what your time at JJC was like.

You'll miss events on the bridge, the great food by the culinary department and severely internationalist architecture. I certainly will. I gained so much from my time here, figuring out what I want to be when I grow up and getting there mostly through my experiences at the Blazer.

Even though I was an Editor-in-Chief for only two short semesters, Bob Marcink and the staff have influenced my passion for language.

Yes, I did start out thinking I wanted to be a reporter and ended up solidly deciding my calling is in a library, but I realized this sooner than later, enabling me to move on much

sooner than I imagined.

I send my best regards to members of the staff who will be returning next semester to carry on the hard work of production weeks (which ended up being weekends most of the time).

Alex Forgue and Richard Maska are prospective editors. They are excellent writers and I'm sure you'll both add something completely new to the paper. Pink-haired Brittney Andersen will continue as production manager. Our shared love of anime and geekery has transformed the paper into a not so subtle homage to our favorite video games and anime series.

Overall, I hope the rest of the staff continues to stay awesome and do great work. JJC will always have a place in my heart.

Truth hard to discern after Boston bombings

BY RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

In Boston, the debris has settled. The families of the four victims and 260 others senselessly injured are all now adjusting to their lives. Many awoke after the twin blasts of the April 15 Boston Marathon bombing in the hospital, some with limbs amputated. Yet all still felt lucky to be alive.

In one of the largest manhunts in American history, suspect Tamerlan Tsarnaev, 26, was killed in a nighttime shootout on April 18.

Now questions are being raised as to how and why the brothers' apparent radicalization occurred. Could the Marathon bombing have been prevented? Perhaps most difficult question to answer is if Tamerlan received assistance from any radical Islamic groups during his recent trip to Russia in early 2012.

US officials, politicians and victims alike, are

looking for answers to these questions, as well as retribution for the Boston bombings. They have every right to. The bombing was surely an act of true terror, a heinous attack on civilians with its sole purpose to inflict as much harm as possible.

What amazes me about the aftermath of the bombings is the amount of emphasis that has been placed on finding any foreign connections that may tie into the plot. Was this the brainchild of some far-flung Islamist radical group hell bent on the collapse of Western civilization?

Tamerlan Tsarnaev had been questioned by the FBI in 2011 after the Russians had tipped a U.S. official off that he may have ties to radical Islamic groups. The FBI concluded there was no cause for alarm and received no reply when they asked the Russians for any additional information.

Despite this, Tamerlan traveled to Dagastan, a region in the Caucasus Mountains in Russia to

visit his ailing father in the beginning of 2012, returning later that year. According to a family friend he slept frequently, worked on a prospective perfume shop, and "kept quiet most of the time as he was helping his father."

One could read between the lines and surmise that Tamerlan had received some kind of aid during his trip to Dagastan.

Many have used his return to the United States as a platform to attack the Obama Administration or Homeland Security, asking why was he let back in the country if he had been on an FBI watch list following his questioning.

Beginning in 2009, Tamerlan began to practice Islam more devoutly. A talented boxer, he gave up his Olympic aspirations telling his uncle, "I am blessed." His mother encouraged the renewal in his faith.

Soon, troubling signs were already beginning to surface. His rhetoric had become more radical

and drew the ire of other members of his local Mosque. He became violent with his former girlfriend, and began viewing radical jihadist propaganda websites.

By the time Tamerlan visited Russia in 2012, it seems he had already crossed the line into dangerous religious radicalization and a fundamentalist doctrine that no major religion would endorse through its teachings.

Considering that the crudely-built bombs were constructed using blueprints easily available online, Tamerlan's trip to Dagastan seems benign. So if one were looking for answers in a foreign conspiracy, the proof is in the pudding, a dish I fear that is not served in the north Caucasus.

As for any failure in Homeland Security or the Obama Administration for not thwarting the plot, it seems like a stretch of reason for me to accept. There are simply too many suspected terrorists on

watch lists for any agency to comb through all of them. Nor are the merits of these intelligence lists infallible. The Ford Motor Company is on one such list.

And the Russians, it turned out, were withholding a recorded phone conversation between Tamerlan and his mother, allegedly discussing jihadist rhetoric. Might that have been useful in keeping Tamerlan from re-entering the country?

Caution and proper perspective is needed when focusing on the potential foreign terror networks that may have aided the brothers. The brothers' radicalism was conceived here in the United States. So what we should be wondering is how these two American residents were driven to such disillusionment about their place in society, and how easily influenced they became by extremist propaganda to the point that they would commit such an atrocious crime.

Big turnout for May Day

BY ALEX FORGUE

Staff Writer

"The people united will never be defeated," thousands chanted as they marched through the streets of Chicago on Wednesday, May 1 to celebrate the international holiday of working-class people and immigration rights known as "Mayday."

The march began at Union Park at 2 p.m. and ended with a rally at Federal Plaza. Mayday began as a tribute to working class people after the Haymarket affair in 1886, where a bomb went off at a labor rally for the eight-hour workday. After the bomb went off, police began firing into the crowd in hopes to disperse the crowd and ended up killing four people.

Although the holiday originated in Chicago, it is predominantly celebrated around the world in Europe and Spain. Due to corporate oppression and the decrease in labor unions, the

holiday isn't as celebrated in the United States.

In the United States, the holiday has transformed into more than a labor holiday, but a holiday to celebrate and fight for the rights of immigrants. Many leftists such as socialists, communists, queer groups, labor unions, Occupy, faith groups and immigrant groups come together in support of immigration reform that makes it accessible for immigrants to become full-fledged citizens.

Current immigration reform has not made it easy for immigrants to come to this country, and requires a lot of time and tens of thousands of dollars. Because the cost is so high, many middle-class and working-class people can't afford to become citizens of this country.

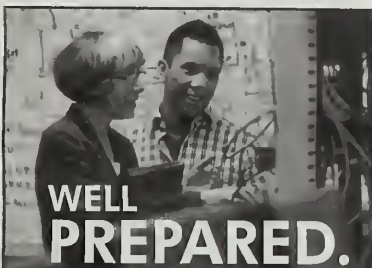
The absence of immigration reform continues to tear families apart and makes innocent, hard-working people labeled as criminals and

are forced into prisons for an un-determined before they are deported.

Senator Dick Durbin spoke of his support for immigration reform and stated that he wants "mothers, fathers and children to come home to America. This is their future. This is the home. This is their country."

Senator Dick Durbin has strong support from the Latino community, but the queer community has had some problems with Durbin's reform. Although, Durbin has stated that he believes the LGBT community and same-sex couples should be included in this bill to protect families, many feel that Durbin will throw the queer community "under the bus" in order to get this bill passed.

Overall, the march which attracted a few thousand people was a huge success and defiantly will play a part in the ongoing fight against school closings and gentrification on Chicago's neighborhoods.



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Justice Kilbride speaks at seminar

BY RICHARD MASKA

Staff Writer

Students and faculty were honored to have Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas L. Kilbride speaking in the final session of the 2012-2013 seminar series hosted by the Business Department, and organized with the help of Business Department chairman Bill O'Connor and professor Margie Cepcon.

The event took place in the Health and Sciences Auditorium U-022 from noon-1:00 p.m. on April 24, and drew media coverage from Sun Time's Herald News and radio A.M. 1340 WJOL.

Speaking briefly about the branches of the Illinois Judicial system and the role of the court system, Kilbride emphasized how crucial the court system is to our government.

"Congress can pass any law, but it's meaningless unless we have judges and lawyers and citizens who stand up and administer that justice," he said.

Kilbride was elected to the Illinois Supreme Court in 2000, and acts as the liaison between the Illinois Supreme Court and the local 3rd Judicial District, covering 21 counties including Will County, Kankakee and LaSalle. Kilbride was born in the Kankakee area and earned his law degree from Antioch School of Law in Washington, DC in 1981.

His inspiration for a just law came not out of studying for his Bachelors in Arts at St. Mary's College in Winona, Mi, but from when he promptly dropped out. Disenchanted with his studies, Kilbride left

school temporarily despite the disapproval from his parents.

"I told them it was an academic sabbatical, fancy term that didn't quite ring true to them," he said.

Kilbride was then recruited by a group led by Caesar Chavez, an advocacy group for minority farmers' rights. He worked first in Chicago then later in California, and explained what the experience was like.

"I saw how lawyers were able to help the farmer working movement and the community ... who needed help getting basic condition of fairness. All this spurred me on into getting a law degree."

He advocated for sanitary improvements, better wages and protection from pesticide exposure. His experiences with Chavez inspired Kilbride's conviction to aid any of those in need of legal advice.

In a recent trip to Washington D.C., Kilbride spoke of "The need for legal aid programs because that advances the administration of justice," and to "try to figure out how the court system can be more accessible to the community."

The recently commissioned program, Access to Justice, works towards this goal by enhancing, facilitating and promoting equal access to the legal system, particularly for the poor and vulnerable.

"Courts is not a very nice place, it's not designed to be that, but there's no reason we cannot be more user friendly," Kilbride said of going to court, but was empathetic and understanding of those who have

to. "Our courts are being flooded with people who have limited English proficiency, and those who cannot afford a lawyer, so we're trying to figure out how to help those people make their way through the court system."

The second aspect of his lecture was to bring attention to the state of funding for the Illinois judicial system. In order to operate and fund the state's judicial system, the courts received 280 million dollars last year.

"Sounds like a lot doesn't it? It's really not. Our 280 million only represents less than one half of one percent of the entire state's budget."

Kilbride elaborated on the extremity of the financial disparity. "Think about it, we're a one-third branch of government and the courts system operates on less than one half-percent. Not only does it make our court system slow, it comes at a cost."

Kilbride used the class four felony as an example, a felony of the lowest severity and eligible for a parole conviction.

"It costs approximately \$3,400 dollars to manage and supervise that kind of case, versus putting them in jail, and I don't mean county, I mean an institutionalized prison, it costs on average \$22,000 dollars per year."

Illinois had 4,000 class four felony convictions move through the courts last year, and Kilbride advocated for an increase in probation officer funding in an effort to ease the financial burden on the state, and the spatial problems in the overcrowded prison system. While he acknowledged that not all of

them were eligible for probation, such as second time offenders, he surmised that thousands of taxpayer dollars could be saved from diverting many away from prison and into probation instead.

Kilbride was congenial and amiable, and much like his professional role, preferred to answer questions and concerns from students and faculty for most of the lecture. Easygoing and conversational, Kilbride showed genuine interest in getting to know the students asking each of them to state their

name, where they were from, and also to stand so the entire crowd could hear the question.

Going into the lecture, if a student's regard for the judicial system was low or non-existent, Kilbride argued for the vital need for an appropriately run legal system, one that works to empower and enable ordinary peoples' access to fair justice. He emphasized that one administers the law in the best interest of the people, as the Constitution reads, "promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty."



Photo by Richard Maska

Kilbride talks about the judicial system in Illinois April 24 in the Health and Sciences auditorium.

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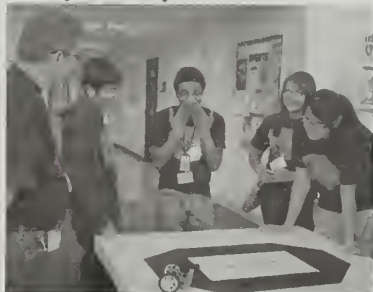
BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor in Chief

High school students from more than 80 schools from around the area were able to put their engineering and technology skills to the test with the annual Robotic Engineering Challenge hosted at JJC. Held on April 26, this nationwide competition requires the students to work in teams from their respective high schools to construct a small robot using the LEGO ROBOABTM System. The key components are sensors built into each robot, allowing them to move around obstacles and mazes. The challenges are divided between Novice and Expert levels, with five challenges in each category. Curt Ward, a professor of JJC's automotive technology department, was the head judge for the competition. "They had to build a robot that would go around this target," Ward said, referring to a Novice challenge where the robot must move around the perimeter of wooden walls. "They were using a sensor to sense dark and light and calculating for distance and angle." The Expert challenges involved programming the robot to simulate tasks that it might perform if it were actually in service. This might have involved starting

from a point then picking up an object representing hazardous waste to bring back to the other side of the table for "disposal." Another Expert challenge pitted students' robots against the tech department's house robot. "It's huge. It's very strong. It's almost indestructible. This one is like wrestling. The idea is whoever pushes who out, wins," Ward said. "We have a lot of fun with it because it's not designed to lose." The hardest challenge of all was perhaps the simulated rescue, where Expert level students programmed their robots to scale over a ramp to get from the danger zone to the safe area of the table. Along with the challenges,

students took multiple choice tests about robotics, which added to their team's overall score. At the end of the challenge, first, second and third place teams received medals, and each of the winning schools received a trophy. All students were given a ribbon for participating. The event was a way in which JJC could reach out to high school students and get them excited about college through hands-on learning. "It's a combination of programming skills, a little bit of math and science to try and figure out angles, distances and time," Ward said. "It's so much more fun than a text book."



Devin Johnson, center, Sandra Mata and Adriana Garcia watch their robot maneuver as head judge Curt Ward looks on.

Photo by
Renée Ronzone

Commentary

Earth Month grows hope

BY RENEE RONZONE

Staff Writer

Chances are an environmentally conscious individual or perhaps the little orange fish swimming in a kiddie pool caught your attention if you were crossing the Bridge April 22. The Sustainability Expo helped wrap up a range of events in honor of Earth Month, which included speakers and documentaries covering topics from natural resources to natural food.

Many vendors were present, providing information on products ranging from ecofriendly, biodegradable soaps to easily maintained vertical hydroponic systems. Students were encouraged to take a few minutes to sign the Sustainability Pledge and earn a free chance to win a reusable water bottle.

An engineer from the City of Joliet was present beside the kiddie pool, which had a street gutter set above it to illustrate the impact we have on our waterways. Joliet is facing a water crisis, as the aquifer from which we source our water not only has problematic levels of radium, but is also rapidly depleting. Smart water use can help lessen the need to start pumping water from the Kankakee River, which at current rates will happen within the next 30 years.

Volunteer groups were also present, including Helpers of Mother Earth and Citizens Against Raining the Environment, or H.O.M.E. and C.A.R.E. respectively. H.O.M.E. organizes clean-ups of dumping sites around Joliet. C.A.R.E. is also a local organization, keeping tabs on area polluters such as Midwest Generation. Both groups are always looking for volunteers; there will be a meeting at Larivue School on May 20 at 6:30 p.m. for those interested in getting involved with protecting and improving Joliet's environment.

The Expo also included Bill and Diane Lorch. They provide an incredible amount of inspiration and information for local organic gardeners and environmentalists. Bill, also known as "Bill the Beekeeper," not only produces honey but also rescues bee hives in inconvenient areas. Diane was presenting information about the movement to permit up to ten hens on most residential lots.

"A lot of people view chickens as noisy and disease-ridden animals," said Diane.

Backyard hens don't just provide eggs and quirky company, but also eat unwanted insects and vegetation, as well as provide fertilizer. For more information about permitting backyard hens, go to J-Hens.org.

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SHRINERS from page 1

conditions. It also serves as a place for physicians to receive education and conduct research. The children are also transported to the hospital free of charge.

"Our hospital in Chicago has 14 Shrine centers like Medinah. There are 14 of us that basically feed into that hospital and support it," Scott Sonnenberg said.

Sonnenberg is a board member of the hospital and part of the Medinah Shriners. Businesses, organizations and supportive individuals are encouraged to contact the hospital in order to set up a fundraiser.

In order to do so, visit the website for the Chicago Shriners Hospital for Children and contact the hospital. "We're looking for children

from infancy all the way up to 18 years of age," Sonnenberg said. "If you see someone around here walking with a limp or you know of any family members or neighbors who have problems with their joints, contact us. We do leg extensions and all kinds of things."

Sonnenberg stated that those who call will probably be able to set up an appointment right there on the phone.

The Student Government's donation was well appreciated. Sonnenberg said that while the hospital receives many donations, not many of those are over \$1,000.

Shriner and Student Government member Jeremy Smith was especially enthusiastic about the donation. Smith has been a Shriner since last year.

"I've been very fortunate to be able to work with these

gentlemen," Smith said. The Shriners came to JJC to show their gratitude, but they were not the only recipients of the Jail and Bail fundraiser.

Nationally recognized organization Autism Speaks, the food pantry of Crest Hill and the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Will and Grady county.

"We had nominations and then we voted to divide it up. The one (charity) with the most votes was going to get 50 percent. Then balance was going to be split evenly," Smith said about how the

Student Government decided on how to divide the money raised. The Student Government was pleased with the impact it had and plans to continue charity work as a goal.



Shriners Hospitals for Children

Photo courtesy of Shriners Hospital for Children



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Around Campus

Photos by Renee Ronzone



Maricela Navarro signs the Sustainability Pledge during the Earth Day event on the Bridge on April 22.



Sarah Maragha and Khalil Abu-Khalil serve kانا, a cheese pastry, during the Muslim Student Association Fair on April 29.



Students eagerly wait to collect free t-shirts for voting on their favorite Recycled Art Show pieces.



Ahmadou Babana, right, poses with Mika-Ii Aslam and his artwork that was on display during the MSA event April 29-30.



Enjoying the sun on April 25, students practice skipping rocks.



Mike Novak sings 'American Pie' during the last karaoke event of the semester on April 24.



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Study tips: give yourself a chance to succeed

BY EMILY GAHAN

Co-Editor-in-Chief

It's 2 a.m. and your Freudian analysis of Hamlet is due in six hours. Are you picturing yourself sinking deep into REM sleep? Slamming your forehead repeatedly into the keyboard? If so, congratulations, you are plagued with the procrastination habits of the average college student.

Procrastinating here and there, especially towards the end of the semester, is completely understandable. However, if waiting until the last minute to study and finish homework is a regular occurrence, you need overhaul your routine. Easily reversible lifestyle habits are almost always the culprits. **Problem: You're easily distracted.**

Tablets and laptops are a second pair of lungs to many of us. Taking notes and doing research while in class is practically an art form. Beware, for Tumblr and Reddit are a mere click away at all times. News and networking sites interrupt the flow of productivity.

We may think that multitasking is the way of the century, but hours can dwindle away on these sites.

Solution: Unplugging your computer or hiding your tablet is hardly necessary. And rejecting the Internet makes no sense since it's an invaluable part of doing homework and research.

Instead, you can regain control of your time by downloading productivity apps and programs. Google Chrome's StayFocused features the ability to block certain sites for a set amount of time to keep you from straying from your work. It's worth mentioning that

Evernote can help you keep track of your obligations and help you study. It's a growing favorite among students. Not only can you conduct research, but Evernote offers the option to collaborate with others as well.

Problem: You're exhausted

You have class at 8 a.m. and yet you're unable to get some shut eye. It can be difficult to yield to sleep if you're a night owl.

Getting the proper amount of sleep each night is essential. The eight hour rule doesn't apply to everyone, but continual unrested sleep really takes years off your life.

Learn to be mindful of your body's natural rhythm. The less sleep you get, the more likely you'll neglect

other areas of your health.

Solution: Notice when you feel the most rested after waking up. Take note of how many hours you slept that night.

Go to sleep and wake up at the same times again. If you're rested again, you've found the sleep schedule that suits you. Never underestimate the benefit of naps. If you are feeling a bit dozy during the day, find a quiet place to snooze for 20 minutes.

This is known as a power nap, long enough in duration to leave you feeling refreshed, but you never enter into deeper sleep because you wake up before then. If you are so tired you're finding yourself reading the same sentence over and over, reserve a couple hours for an extended nap. Your body is starting to shut down and you can't prevent yourself from giving in to the inevitable. On that same note, don't guzzle caffeinated drinks all day, especially energy drinks.

Energy drinks are often marketed to sleep-deprived college students, but the truth is nothing can substitute a rested mind.

The occasional boost is fine, but as a rule if you are already tired it's best not to load your body up with sugary corn syrups. Don't believe the claim of a "no crash" energy drink. The come down can vary in severity, but there always is one. Try tea or a fruit smoothie as a healthier option.

Problem: You're taking on too many obligations

There's always that person who takes seven classes at once and works full time. While that may seem admirable, there's a limit to how many obligations a student can take on. Notice that this person probably can't stick around anywhere for long and is always rushing off somewhere. This is the perfect trigger for stress and anxiety.

Humans are not biologically inclined to handle prolonged periods of stress. We evolved to respond to brief instances of danger.

When the stress response is constantly evoked, this can lead to hypertension, depression and increased vulnerability to a host of illnesses.

Stress can leave you so frazzled you can no longer focus on studying, leading to the problem of distraction discussed earlier.

Solution: Don't bite off more than you can chew goes the cliché. If you're just starting college, it's likely you want to immerse yourself in all the things that interest you. While it's great to be excited about getting involved, make sure you are ready to make the commitment to be present for

most club meetings and events.

If you overschedule yourself and are unable to fully participate in the clubs you join, fellow members will surely notice. You don't want to be that person. Don't join student groups simply because you want to collect

selling points on a resume either.

This type of grab for recognition is obvious because you are not involved for the satisfaction of being an active part of campus life.

Overscheduling leaves you prone to simply going through the motions of each responsibility

you take on. In terms of studying, one general tip is to not cram for more than two subjects at a time. Also, spare yourself from taking more than 12 credit hours at a time. If you truly wish to get ahead, take classes during the summer semester.

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Metal music at Mojos

Local bands rock out for crowd

BY BRANDY ANDERSEN

Staff Writer

On April 12, a metal concert was held at Mojo's in downtown Joliet. The venue was grungy and dark, a perfect setting for a metal concert.

The venue itself was a bit smaller than what most concertgoers would expect. Most who go there are small-time fans that live within the area.

The lighting effects were just okay. It could have been better setup. The lighting effects could have been synched in time to different sounds during the performances.

Since the area was small, the sounds of the instruments were very loud all around. The sound was great and you were able to hear each note well, but at times it was hard to hear or understand the vocals since the instruments were so loud.

Within the Joliet, Monolith, Reflections and I Declare War performed that night. The first band that opened was Within the Hollow, a new band that has performed a few shows since they started back in 2011. They had a nice sound. Vocalists Roberto Sullivan and Matthew Brandolino had wonderful energy on stage and

you could easily understand and relate to what they sang. The second band was Monolith. Monolith was founded in 1994. They didn't have a vocalist, so it was all instrumental.

I could compare their sound to Metallica and there were parts that were smooth, almost like jazz.

The lead guitarist was very strong and technical. The band to follow was Reflections. Founded in 2010, this band was very heavy and had nice vocals. They had lots of energy on stage even though the lead vocalist, Jake Foster, was sick. They still performed a great show.

The headliner was I Declare War, led by Jamie Hanks on vocals. They came out and tore up the stage. This band originated in Seattle, one of the new heavyweights of the deathcore scene today. I Declare War was full of energy and gave an amazing performance that night. The riffs from the guitar were strong, making the crowd go crazy with excitement.

Overall, the experience and performances were all very entertaining and exciting. Come check out what's playing over at Mojo's to enjoy local bands famous bands in your area.

Musica Viva concludes for semester

By MICHAEL SCHULLER

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Daniela Broderick, applied piano instructor as well as the professor for many other classes here at JJC, was featured in the latest Musica Viva concert series. The concert was not only enjoyable, but featured free admission as well.

Musica Viva has long been an educational tradition for JJC's music department. Broderick opened with a small talk about the musical themes she was about to perform, as well as a little bit about the following performance.

Performing the concert in memory of Dr. Thomas Liley, she educated the audience as he would, so that everyone in the audience could follow along at the same pace regardless of musical experience. Her two selections for the evening were "Pictures at an Exhibition" by Modest Mussorgsky and a "Quintet in B-flat" by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, featuring the piano.

Broderick showed liveliness, confidence and skill on the stage that kept the listener engaged throughout the performance and made the time fly by. One of the aspects Broderick taught the audience was a theme in the first movement of Pictures at an Exhibition, Promenade. This theme would recur throughout the entire piece in various forms and glue the piece together.

Musica majors and those who have taken Broderick's courses would be familiar with this theme and how music like Mussorgsky's works.

However, with just a few words, everyone was on the same page and was then able to enjoy the experience even more with Broderick's help. This is what the Musica Viva program is for. It is meant to educate the listener so that they will understand what they are listening to and walk away with an enriched experience.

It is one thing to like or dislike a piece of music, it is another thing entirely to be able to say why. Many students walked away from this performance enjoying what they chose to do with their afternoon. It was in part due to

Broderick's skill as a performer, but was also due to her skill as a professor of music and reaching out to the minds of students of all levels of musical understanding.



Daniela Broderick's face is reflected on the piano during the performance.



This concert was well attended, as it was the last Musica Viva performance of the semester. The JJC Chamber Singers will be performing May 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Photos by Renee Ronzone

Concordia University Chicago Inspiring service

This year I have a leadership role in VOICE, the student government group at CUC. My role is as the Service Learning Coordinator, helping when student clubs are looking for service projects on campus or in the local Chicago area, and helping publicize the service projects. And for my communication major, I'm able to have a radio show on our campus radio station, WCGR. It's cool that we get to have so many hands-on learning experiences at CUC.

—Lauren Busch, communication and psychology double major from Bellflower, California

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NFL draft

Bears questioned

BY LUKE SCIACOTTA

Sports Editor

After the Chicago Bears made their selection at the 20th overall pick in this year's draft, it felt many questions rather than doubts in the minds of Bears fans.

Kyle Long, rookie offensive guard out of Oregon, was taken by Bears general manager, Phil Emery, with the 20th pick.

This has been the second straight year that Phil Emery seemingly has tried to find diamonds in the rough as his first round selections.

Last year in the 2012 NFL Draft, Emery selected Shea McClellin with the 19th overall pick and left fans and analysts with more questions than answers.

Emery selected a player that nobody really knew about as he was an outside linebacker who had the ability to rush the passer.

And analysts were expecting McClellin to go to a team that played a 3-4 defense. They also expected him to make an immediate impact.

Now it certainly wasn't like Emery selected someone who was a scrub at the college level, and it definitely didn't seem that way last year as he played for the Bears.

Though McClellin only recorded two and a half sacks in his rookie season, he wasn't utilized as much as he should have been, and there were definitely

moments where he should've had at least 12 sacks on the season.

Now with Long, again this is a guy that nobody really knows about so here are the facts.

This is a player that started in five games as a guard at Oregon and played a total of 11. He was very versatile as he played a bit of tackle and as a center. Mike Mayock also ranked him as the third best guard in this year's draft.

Now it's obvious that this guy is very athletic as he recorded a 4.94 40-yard dash time at the NFL Combine. And during the short time he played at Oregon, he was part of an offensive line that had to a fast-paced line in an up-tempo Oregon offense.

Now for all the "meatheads" that believe that this was a wasted pick for the Bears, look at it this way.

Emery drafted a player that filled a need at the guard position. And under offensive line coach, Aaron Kromer, who has turned a few linemen into Pro-Bowlers, can work wonders with him and put Long at guard or maybe even a tackle.

Furthermore, fans have been complaining for years that Bears management have not addressed the dreadful offensive line, now that they finally have fans want to complain? Let's get serious and truly think about this.

Now I will say it may be a reach of a pick and 20, however Long fills a need not just this year but as well as the future.

Softball team up, then down

BY LUKE SCIACOTTA

Sports Editor

The JJC Lady Wolves softball team has not been able to sustain winning performances in the later part of April.

JJC earned two victories against N4C conference opponent Triton College. In game one, JJC won by a score of 9-3. Kristen Arndt homered in the contest.

Kelsey Gilhoy earned the pitching win. In three innings, she struck out three and gave up three hits.

In game two, the Lady Wolves earned a 14-4 victory. Karli Beauchamp had three hits, including a double. She finished with 4 RBI's. Beauchamp earned another victory on the mound striking out four in 5 innings. JJC

improved their record to 11-17 overall and 10-8 in the conference.

However the winning wouldn't last long as the Lady Wolves later fell to Madison College four days later.

In game one, Madison topped Joliet by a score of 7-4. Stephanie Stanton homered in the contest.

In game two, Madison shut out the Lady Wolves with a 2-0 score. Kristen Arndt had the lone single for Joliet.

The main problem that JJC has had with these losses is the lack of consistency on offense.

In the Triton series the Lady Wolves recorded 23 total runs in two games, an average of nearly 12 runs per game.

However, in the Madison series, the Lady Wolves only

recorded four runs in two games, an average two runs per game.

A day later, team fell to Kankakee Community College in a non-conference match-up.

In game one, Kankakee won by a score of 20-1. Beauchamp, Miranda Lawson and Regina Cahne all singled in the contest.

In game two, Kankakee earned a 10-1 victory. Kristen Arndt doubled, while Stephanie Stanton, Michelle Grove and Katie Gertz all hit singles.

The Region IV Division III Tournament started on May 3 and JJC hosts Madison College again in the first game. They hope they can rebound from their performance a week ago against Madison.



Bailey Wuske takes second moments before the Lady Wolves secure the lead over Triton College April 20.

Photo by Renee Ronzone

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SPORTS



JJC's Kenny Mlosevic squints up after the ball during the game against DuPage's Chaparrals on April 20.

Photos by Renee Rozzone

Wolves gear up for playoffs

BY LUKE SCIACOTTA

Sports Editor

The JJC baseball team has had average performances with opponents in the last part of the season.

From April 20 to May 1, the Wolves recorded a 7-9 record to make their overall record 22-20. JJC first split three straight series with opponents like Dupage College, Black Hawk College, and Waubesa Community College.

In the first series against Dupage, in game one, DuPage shut out the Wolves with a 3-0 score. Chris Pikoulas went 2-for-2 at the plate. He singled in the third and fifth innings.

In game two, the Wolves fought back to claim a 7-6 victory. Chris Pikoulas led the way with two hits. He singled in the first inning and homered in the sixth inning. Dominic Olszta doubled in the contest. Josh Wojnarowski

got the pitching win for the Wolves.

The next series was another split the next day against Black Hawk College. In game one, it was all Black Hawk with a 2-0 score. Alex Bebar and Dominic Olszta both doubled for the Wolves. Colin Hart struck out five, allowed two earned runs on four hits and one walk over six innings.

In game two, Joliet won by a score of 5-1. Dominic Olszta collected three hits, while Chris Pikoulas finished with two hits. Shane Hartly earned the victory on the mound. Hartly gave up just two hits, allowed no earned runs, walked one and struck out three during his seven innings.

Three days later, the Wolves earned another split against Waubesa. In game one, Waubesa got the victory by an 8-1 score. Nick Fleischer doubled in the contest.

In game two, the Wolves bounced back with an 8-4 win. Casey Papp and Nick Fleischer both had two hits. Alex Bebar doubled, while

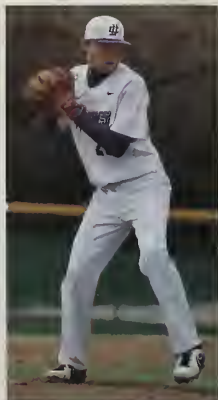
Cody Krieh hit a triple for the Wolves. Austin Vazquez recorded the win for Joliet. He allowed four runs over seven innings.

JJC was able to get a one game victory two days later against Oakton Community College by a score of 6-5 in the non-conference match-up.

On April 28, the Wolves picked up two wins against Harper College. In game one, the Wolves took down Harper by a 10-2 score. Austin Vazquez picked up the victory on the mound. He struck out seven, allowed two earned runs on five hits and one walk over seven innings.

In game two, JJC cruised to a 10-3 victory. Josh Wojnarowski recorded the win for Joliet. He struck out three, walked two, and gave up six hits.

The Wolves goal at this point is to find some consistency in their game and pick up a few more wins down the stretch.



Matt Sutor prepares to strike out the Chaparrals.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Chris Pikoulas

Chris Pikoulas earned NJCAA Division III National Player of the Week for games played during the week of April 22-28. During that time, Pikoulas batted .500 (11-for-22) with 12 RBIs and eight runs scored. The sophomore hit four doubles and four home runs on the week, compiling a 1.227 slugging percentage. Against Kankakee this past Friday, Pikoulas had two hits in the contest.



Stephanie Stanton

In Region IV tournament play this past weekend, Stephanie Stanton had three hits, including a triple and two RBIs in a 10-9 loss to the College of DuPage. Against Madison College, Stanton tripled in the contest. She earned All-Region and Region IV All-Tournament honors for her play this season.

9/11 remembered at JJC



Joliet Police Department marches at JJC 9/11 ceremony.

Photo by Travis Clasen

Commentary

The best and worst of the summer of 2013

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

It is late September now, the days are getting shorter, the semester is in full swing, the Bears have begun their 2013 campaign, and summer almost seems like a distant memory. But before we pack away our flip flops and break out the winter gear, let us take a moment to reflect back on the summer that was.

Legal Matters

Best: George Zimmerman and Trevon Martin saga.

The tragic killing of Trevon Martin, and the subsequent trial of George Zimmerman, was a summer long saga that reopened wounds caused by discrimination, and was one of the most sensationalized legal battles in recent memory.

While none deny that a person has the right to defend him or herself, the circumstances surrounding Martin's death, and the strength of Zimmerman's

defense, could best be described as questionable. Outraged by Zimmerman's acquittal, demonstrators took to the streets in protest, civil rights activists as well as President Obama responded in opposition, while many others still feel very uneasy.

Best: Supreme Court strikes down Proposition 8 and D.O.M.A.

The overturning of both Proposition 8, the California law which defined marriage as between a man and a woman, and the Defense of Marriage Act, (DOMA), which denied benefits to same sex couples was landmark decision for the Supreme Court.

The ruling is a gigantic win for gay activists, who have long faced discriminatory legal hurdles, and now see the first significant federal ruling in support of gay rights, and realizes the dreams of countless couples wanting the most fundamental right to be treated equally.

Some critics predictably argued against the morality of same sex marriage, others charged that individual states should have the right to make their own laws regarding marriage, making the decision impactful in both social and political realms.

But it's clear the nation was ready for it; increasingly people have grown in acceptance towards gays, peeling away much of the social stigma against them. There is still a long ways to go towards equality under the law, but when it happens, historians will likely point to this Supreme Court ruling as a major turning point.

Sports

Worst: Poor play of the White Sox and Cubs

Believe it or not Chicago baseball fans have been spoiled with success in the past decade. Multiple playoff appearances for both teams, sprinkled with a handful of deep runs, and one World Series win, has made the

last decade of baseball the best in Chicago since the early 20th Century's dead ball era.

We saw that time come and go in the summer of 2013: When averaged together the two teams winning percentage is an abysmal .412; the White Sox have been incapable of fielding the ball sporting a team fielding percentage of .981, ranking them 28th out of 30th in all of baseball; and the Cubs are on pace to lose 100 games two years in a row.

Best: Blackhawks capture Lord Stanley's Cup.

By the time summer rolled along in 2013, the Chicago Blackhawks had been putting together one of the most extraordinary seasons in the city's long sports history, having up to that point, played so well that anything but a Stanley Cup victory would be a disappointment.

After starting the 2012-13 campaign by setting the record

See SUMMER on page 2

Mexican heritage celebrated

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

In a festive event held on the Main Bridge, the Latino Unidos club hosted mariachi musical group, "Los Galleros," on Sept. 16, and celebrated Mexican Independence Day with traditional songs, accompanied by spontaneous dancing from the enthusiastic crowd.

The event also included power-point presentation on the history chronicling the history of Mexico's victory of independence over Spain, an 11 year war that ended with both sides signing the Treaty of Cordoba on Sept. 27, 1821.

"It's important to show what Mexican Independence means to us," explained Latinos Unido's club member Brian Herrera, who along with many other students, showed their passion and later joined to band on stage for some impromptu singing and dancing.

His sentiment was shared by most of the raucous crowd, who already seemed to know the lyrics, and sang along with the band, forming a train styled dance and paraded around the bridge.

"It was a lot of fun, a good turn-out, and a good crowd," said Maleni Avila, a JJC student and one of the primary organizers for the club, who at the end of the performance, thanked the band and every one in attendance for coming out, inviting the crowd to future Latinos Unidos events.

Latinos Unidos was established in 1990 and offers a forum and support group for those promoting academic success and community involvement for the Latino community at JJC.

The club has become one of the most active on campus, with weekly meetings, and four events still to go in the semester they've organized eight gatherings already, most recently an outdoor mixer at the Picnic Grove on Sept. 23.



EDITORIAL

What should replace iCampus?

Currently, the college is choosing a new Learning Management Software to replace iCampus. The former company that created iCampus has been bought out by Blackboard, and the software is outdated and will not be updated.

The school is looking into three new possibilities, which include Blackboard Learn, Desire 2 Learn, and Canvas by Instructure.

Here are some of the attributes of all three potential LMS systems:

Blackboard is one software that would be easy to migrate to because many staff members are already familiar with the software. Submitting assignments through Blackboard is also easy.

Blackboard also allows teachers to attach rubrics to grades so students are able to see specifically what they made mistakes on. Blackboard also

allows users to create discussion groups as well as private messaging, which allows for easy collaboration.

When it comes to reading files on Blackboard, the software does not do well with files like PDF, PPT or Word documents; all files would have to be downloaded and the student would need specific software for that file in order to read it. When it comes to the mobile app, Blackboard has by far the best user interface and ease of use, but students would need to pay \$1.99 per year in order to use the app.

Desire2Learn offers an easier interface in order to access your grades and assignments. One of the things that Desire2Learn does best is that it categorizes assignments and allows students to view their progress in certain areas of a course whether quizzes, assignments, or participation.

Desire2Learn also allows teachers to attach rubrics to grades so students can see what they specifically got wrong. When it comes to reading content, Desire2Learn does a great job; it can natively read many file types and makes it easy for teachers to post content like readings or PowerPoint and for the students to read them.

Unlike its counterpart Blackboard, Desire2Learn offers a mobile app for free, but the app is only available for iPhone and IOS users.

When it comes to easy interface and providing useful tools for students, Canvas wins hands down. Canvas makes clear reminders of what assignments that you need to do.

Canvas also allows students to enter "what if" grades. That means that if a student wants to see what her grade would be if

she got an 80 out of 100 points on assignment, she would enter 80 on that assignment in the grade book. Canvas would then show her what her grade would be if she got an 80 on that assignment. This is a very useful and valuable tool that all students would love to have.

Canvas also makes it easy to contact a professor or fellow student with private messaging.

When it comes to reading files, Canvas also does a very good job of allowing students to read content within the software itself. Canvas also features a mobile app that is free and is available for both Android and IOS users.

All things considered, we believe that if the school is looking for a useful, easy-to-use and flexible learning management software, Canvas is the best candidate for the job.

SUMMER from page 1

for most consecutive wins without a loss in regulation in NHL history the Hawks won the Presidents Trophy for finishing with the best regular season record, brushed aside the Minnesota Wild to start the Stanley Cup Playoffs, beat Detroit in seven games after falling behind 3-1 in the series, and vanquished the defending Cup champion the Los Angeles Kings in five games.

Enter the Boston Bruins, who were two years removed from tasting Stanley Cup victory, themselves, brought physicality and experience to counter the Blackhawks speed and skill. The series became an instant classic; three games went to overtime, featuring a dramatic game six with the Hawks coming behind by scoring two goals within 17 seconds in the final 1:16, winning the series 4-2.

With this victory the Blackhawks have become the most dynastically great team in

Chicago since Michael Jordan's Bulls. Throughout the season and playoffs, the Hawks had to battle through high expectations, experienced playoff opponents, increasing physicality, and a host of injuries, but captured the Cup anyway, winning in incredible and dramatic fashion late in game six.

Music and Entertainment

Worst: Miley Cyrus at the VMA's.

Provocative is too good a word to describe Miley Cyrus's raunchy spectacle at MTV's Video Music Awards. The VMA's are used to shocking and/or embarrassing performances, but this one topped them all, setting a new bar for lowliness. All that was missing was Britney Spears.

Best: Pharrell Williams as the King of Summer.

Suave singing Pharrell Williams was the unofficial party master this summer appearing

in, "Get Lucky," a collaboration with Daft Punk and Neil Rodgers, which saw William's giving us a dance routine anyone could pull off, as well as a star role in Robin Thicke's crazy catchy tribute to Marvin Gay, "Blurred Lines." This marked just the 17th time an artist has had Billboard's number one and two spots at the same time when Williams accomplished the feat in June.

Around Campus

Best: Summer of Success.

JJC students continued to prove their academic merit through stellar performances in three national competitions this past summer.

The Culinary Department's competition team sustained their downright dominance over the competition by taking home gold at the American Culinary Federation's (ACF) Hot Foods National Championship, with Jaclyn Adamonis won Student

Chef of the Year, a feat the school also accomplished in 2011.

In May, the Technical Department kicked off summer early when four students won second place in the District 6 International Society of Automation (ISA) Competition held at North Dakota State College of Science.

The campus Floral Design team won second place at the annual American Institute of Floral Designers, a competition that was held in Las Vegas.

Worst: Summer Classes. Not to be juvenile about it, but for those who have taken summer classes will tell you, they are a beast of burden. Accelerated courses and three hour class periods make for a month of hell where motivation runs short, and your patience is tried more than you ever will for a regular class. All for a few measly credit hours.

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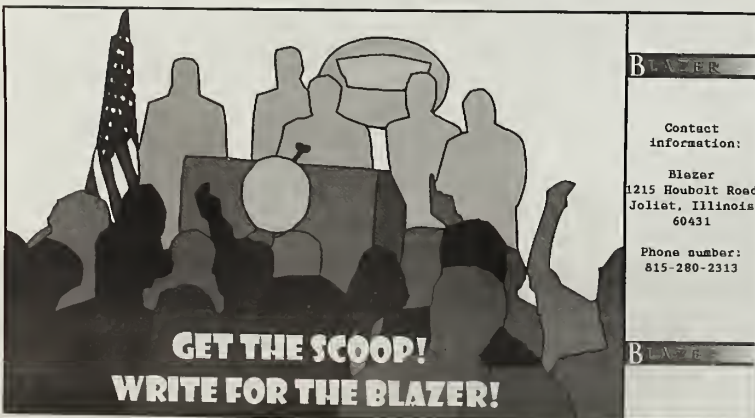
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BLAZER

Tips for academic success

BY RICHARD MASKA AND
LINDSEY CANTRELL

Staff Writers

Now that students have adjusted to being back into class, it is important to stay on track and build a solid foundation to which one can perform well and succeed academically. Compiled here is a list of tips to help students throughout the semester, and hopefully, earn a respectable grade.

Do not skip class

Showing up to class is the first most obvious prerequisite to having success at a collegiate level, yet it is advice that many do not follow. And I do not mean missing class because of a personal or family issue, field trip, or obligation planned for in advance, but simply skipping class on a whim, and making a habit of it, one might as well be carving their grade's tombstone.

While some people think they can just make the work up on their own, when you miss a lecture, quiz, discussion, or lab, you often miss things that you cannot make up.

Teachers will often create test questions based on material only covered in class, and contrary to urban myth, most will fail you for too many absences.

Now I know skipping class seems like a very college thing to do, but don't be mistaken, the better attendance, the better your odds will be at having success in college.

Get social

Becoming friendly with your classmates is more than just an effort to waste time, and stave off

in-class boredom; it is also useful way of staying in tune and aware of the courses content, the pace of the class, and often times will give you a last minute reminder about an assignment due.

Group projects are far easier to complete with people you have rapport and familiarity with, mainly because one spends less delegating responsibilities, and more time actually improving the assignment together.

I would argue that having friends, or at least good acquaintances in a class, is one of

the biggest factors for enjoying, and being a part of a class you do well in.

Participate early and often

When thinking about all the classes the average college student will take, the odds are the classes in which they had the most success was most likely a class where they and the majority of students participated and got involved in lesson discussions.

For many people, the reason they do not participate aloud in class is being nervous and afraid to answer a question incorrectly. But the truth is if you have any answer in your head at all, the odds are it is correct.

Try it sometime; whether you are only giving a simple answer to a question or a personal showcase for one's insight, class participation creates an atmosphere that keeps you involved and focused on the content, and conditions us to sustain our involvement in every class.

Get involved in extra-curricular activities

Getting involved with extra-curricular activities is a great way to keep one's grades up and keep a positive attitude. Joining clubs or sports allows you to become more social

and more involved in day to day school activities, and will facilitate a feeling of belonging to the school and one's performance.

Joining an extra-curricular activity will boost the quality of a future resume or college application, and none can doubt its potential to enrich one's life outside of school for years to come.

Take personal ownership

Taking personal ownership means adopting a mindset that keeps one dedicated, not only in the completion of assignments, but also striving to make each better. It means legitimately caring for one's performance and not taking class for granted.

So get rid of about receiving a poor grade; then do something about it. Take the initiative in making sure you study enough, and prioritize your work; there is no worse feeling than knowing that effort was left on the table, because by the time one realizes that deficiency, it's already too late.

By enrolling in college one commits to an investment in themselves and their future, and is a privilege to all who attend. We owe it to ourselves to make good on that stock; for as long as one buys into themselves, the greater success they can expect to achieve.



Student Brendan Kessel takes personal ownership of his studying.

Photo by Richard Maska

More tips!

Make a schedule

Your calendar is your best tool for productivity. Whether that means using your smart phone, laptop or actual paper, if you want to supercharge your to-do list, take each item and make it an appointment on your calendar. This takes a task and moves it from being just something you need to do to something you will do at a specific date and time. Before doing this, think about the rest of your day-to-day schedule seriously and when you would be truly free to get it done. There's nothing worse than having to reschedule on yourself.

Remove clutter

Clutter can accumulate quickly. Creativity is a messy process that needs to begin in a clean space. Clear the space around you and you create more space inside your head. Plus, with less mess around, there's less room for distractions. That might also dreadfully include not looking on your phone for a half hour or so while it's study time.

Don't stress

Easier said than done, right? Stress steals your focus. If you were to measure your ability to focus on a scale of 1 to 10, the presence of stress could lower your score by 3 to 5 points. However, a little stress may actually motivate you to get your work done. That's why we might secretly enjoy

procrastinating—always thriving on the drama of whether or not we'll get our work done. But, as your stress level increases, in turn your productivity level decreases. When you feel like stress is capturing more attention than you'd like, take a break. Go for a walk, get a snack or listen to some music. Breaking up the activity helps to reduce and release stress.

One thing at a time

Multi-tasking is a myth. All we end up doing is moving from one thing to another at a rapid pace. When we do this, we lose momentum. We decrease our creative energy. Every task suffers. It's easy to spread ourselves thin across all of the things on our to-do list. We see ALL that we have to do instead of focusing on the ONE thing we need to do at the moment. If you struggle in this area, try shortening your to-do list once and a while. Rome wasn't built in a day.

Here's a secret: Making progress in your health, your work, and your life isn't all about learning how to focus and concentrate better, it's about learning how to choose and commit to a specific task and figuring out how to complete it.

These strategies are simply tools to assist you in following through on your commitment to get things done. Good luck!

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Michael Hingson's amazing story

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

On Thursday Sept. 15 JJC had the great privilege of hosting a series of presentations by 9/11 survivor Michael Hingson, a man blind from birth, who escaped from the 78th story of the World Trade Center's Tower One, a feat made possible on the strength of the teamwork he'd built with his guide dog Roselle.

A recent author of the New York Times bestselling book: "Thunder Dog: The True Story of a Blind Man, His Guide Dog, and the Triumph of Trust" Hingson is also an accomplished business man, an activist for those with disabilities.

He has selflessly spoken around the world imparting the lessons that he's learned, not only from surviving 9/11, but also the experiences from growing up, when he found success despite his blindness, and made his message one of teamwork and trust in others.

Hingson's story is inspirational not only for his story of heroism on ground zero, but also for the challenges he's overcome throughout his life; born in the South Side of Chicago, he recalls a story of riding a pedal car around the house at the age of three and learning how to "feel" the counters and tables around him.

Later when he moved to

California he upped the ante: "I learned to ride a bike. Safely! As safely as any kid could be expected to ride a bike," he explains, much to the surprise of his disapproving neighbors, who would not accept a blind boy riding a bike, no matter how well he was able to do it.

Hingson's perseverance was a trait that was always being underestimated, for no matter how proficient he was in a subject or task, he could always count on being discriminated based on his blindness. In trying to elaborate, Hingson said society instilled the notion "that just because we can't see doesn't mean we can't live ... the fact of the matter is that if we're all human beings, if we're all equal under the law, then why is it not?"

He tells a story from graduate school and finding a professor's letter stating, "There is no way a blind person could possibly absorb the information necessary to get a degree in advanced physics." Hingson finished with a masters degree from University of California in Irvine anyway.

"I grew up believing, because my parents taught me, that I could be whatever I chose be," Hingson said proudly, and found success in the in marketing new technologies, "I've often had to be a little bit smarter, work a little bit harder, and sometimes, confront challenges that others wouldn't."

From the initial minutes after the plane had struck the Tower One, to the minutes after leaving Ground Zero, he still had no idea what had just happened to the buildings, never mind the country.

On his way down the 78 flights of stairs to reach the bottom floor, Hingson recalls an encounter with firemen on their way up to fight the blaze. After refusing assistance from one of the emergency personnel, the fireman stopped to pet Hingson's guide dog Roselle, who "Gave him kisses, and probably the last unconditional love he received in his life."

Hingson's story is not just a 9/11 story. The events on that tragic day serve as the canvass to illustrate the proof in a philosophy that Hingson has long upheld, "9/11 is as much as anything an opportunity to learn, and move forward, it isn't all tragic ... It goes beyond buildings being attacked. We didn't have control over that, (9/11) but we did, however, have control over how we dealt with it."

After a long pause Hingson summarized his feelings.

"We need to accept people who are different than us. The precepts of Islam ultimately aren't what the terrorists' say they are ... we need to recognize that we're all in it together, and to work together to make a better world, and we can do that."

9/11 remembered in JJC ceremony

BY TRAVIS OLSON

Staff Writer

A ceremonial salute to those who died and those who put their life on the line were highlighted in a ceremony in front of the main Campus building on the morning of September 11th. The ceremony included notable JJC staffer, Phil Spencer, as well Navy Veteran, Ed Jones, performing "America the Beautiful."

Navy Marines fired their guns in salute, joining concert with the tolling of bells honoring the 403 firefighters and policemen who gave their lives in the line of duty, as well as the countless other victims whose lives were taken that September day.

Honored guest Gabriel Lopez recited part of II Congressman Bill Foster's moving tribute to the events of 9/11, a proclamation which will be stored in the National Archives, "While together we have moved a decade beyond the memories will forever be witnessed all across the country Americans have come together on what has become a day of service and remembrance."

The attacks on 9/11 were the worst of its kind on American soil, tragically ending the lives of almost 3000 people. Of the four hijacked planes, two hit their mark on the World Trade Center; another struck the Pentagon.



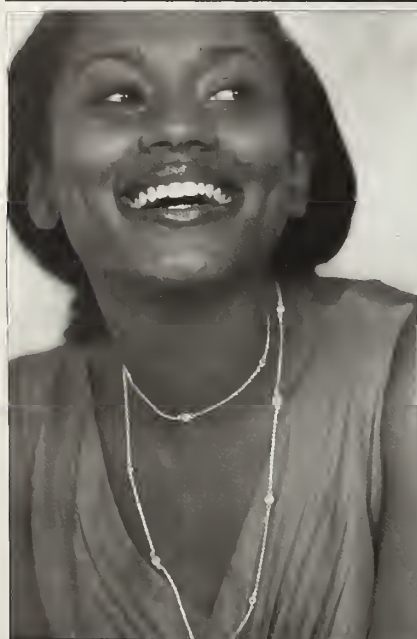
Photo by Travis Olson

The final plane had its controls seized by the passengers of United 93, forcing the Al-Qaeda militants to crash land near Shanksville, Penn.

Not only did the passengers of United 93 show unbounded courage in their efforts prevent any further damage to the American infrastructure, it also gave us a shining example of selfless sacrifice in the defense of freedom. It is believed the terrorists target was the nation's capital.

The memorial event was organized with the help of JJC Police Chief Pete Comanda. Also one hand was members of the Will County Sheriff's Police Rifle Squad, the Joliet Police Department Honor Guard, and the Joliet Fire Department Pipes and Drum Unit.

After the event, participants were invited for breakfast inside the cafeteria where a showing of 9/11 related films were played.



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Student Government: Voice of the students

BY VICTORIA SHINER

Copy editor

Joliet Junior College's Student Government held its second meeting of the school year on Sept. 19 at 3 p.m. Topics ranged from Mainstreet to student government's role on campus, and touched on some of the main issues the group would like to address in the coming year.

Meetings are held weekly on Thursdays in A1002 from 3-4 p.m.

The meeting began with members introducing themselves. Jeremy Smith is serving as president and Kaitlyn Harris is vice president.

The new members all have different views, are in different semesters, and have different majors. These students are the face of JJC and with the variety present this year, members are excited for the outcome.

Other officers are Secretary Perry Harlow and Treasurer Michael Layfield. Keith Bryant returns as student trustee. The student government's constitution allows 21 voting representatives as well as alternatives who can also participate.

After introductions, Vice President Kaitlyn Harris started the meeting speaking directly to the new members.

"We are the voice of the students at JJC," she said.

The main veteran members stressed the importance of

involvement and the position they carry as a member of student government. Student Trustee Keith Bryant, who represents the student body on the Board of Trustees, encouraged members to be vocal.

"Don't be afraid to speak up," he said. "They need and want to hear your voice in these matters. It's our job to speak and make change."

Meeting topics varied from past events such as Mainstreet and its outcomes for this year. JJC's upcoming events were also discussed. Votes on a new uniformed shirt were taken. Conflicts such as the lack of parking in the J-lot were also brought to the table.

While many of the new members are relatively new and the school year has just started, new member Edward Burns is looking forward to his involvement of the group.

"[The year] seems promising," Burns said. "I'm keeping my ears open and just listening for now to take everything in, but I want to be involved and make a difference. This is a good way to meet new people and build connections."

Bryant, a seasoned veteran of student government said, feels good about what this new group can achieve.

"I'm pretty confident with the group," Bryant said. "We have a lot of new people, and we'll continue the process of doing new things."

Unique menu idea

Farm-to-fork market dinner

COURTESY OF JJC
NEWSROOM

The Joliet Junior College Culinary Arts Department will feature produce and meats from local Illinois farmers in a new event called the Farm-to-Fork Market Dinner, on Saturday, Sept. 28 outside the Campus Center cafeteria on the Main Campus, 1215 Houbolt Road in Joliet.

JJC student chefs will prepare the five-course meal, beginning with hors d'oeuvres and beverages at 4 p.m., but patrons are invited to come as early as 3:30 p.m. for a meet-and-greet with the farmers.

Only 200 tickets are available, so reservations should be made as soon as possible by calling Dori Miller at 815-280-2255. Tickets cost \$75 per person.

Culinary chair Mike McGreal said the vast majority of the evening's meal would consist of local food from no more than 250 miles away – from lettuce harvested at the JJC Greenhouse to craft beers brewed in

Chicago and meats from naturally raised animals in central Illinois. Only a small percentage of other ingredients, such as flour and fish, would come from a further distance.

McGreal said the food for the Farm-to-Fork Market Dinner is coming from producers who enforce sustainable production practices on their farms, businesses, or aquaculture.

Because produce grows at its own speed, the menu will be a surprise, according to McGreal, although diners can expect a family-style salad course; grilled, roasted, and slow cooked meat courses; poultry and salmon courses; and a dessert course.

Events like the Farm-to-Fork Market Dinner also help the

JJC Culinary Arts Department by providing money for student scholarships and faculty professional development. \$50 from each ticket purchased will go toward those funds.

The farmers meet-and-greet, taking place at 3:30 p.m., is open to the public and will give guests a chance to mingle with some of the farmers who will have their products on the evening's menu. Guests will get the chance to ask questions and purchase their own fresh food. Other vendors, who appear regularly at the JJC Farmers Market, will also be at the meet-and-greet.

For more information about the Farm-to-Fork Market Dinner, or to make a reservation, call Dori Miller at 815-280-2255.



A recent shot of the JJC Farmer's Market.

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Sonia Pedapati

Elmhurst is a great fit for me because professors talk to you without having to look at your ID number. The community here is so close-knit and intimate that the College seems like a second home.

Jacob Scott

At Elmhurst it's easy to get involved at a high level. I was news editor for the newspaper, I have an internship, and I'm a fellow with the Interfaith Youth Core. Regular people can make a real difference here.



Life is a picnic at JJC

BY LINDSEY CANTRELL

Staff Writer

"Life is a picnic at JJC," was the theme for Mainstreet, the once a semester, two-day, recruiting fair for student clubs and information fair for departments.

Giveaways, food and a chance to benefit from college resources while getting involved with the school and community are just a few things this event had to offer.

From 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 18 to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013, Pam Dilday, Director of the Office of the Student Activities, put together this massive event in the C-G concourse down the main drag of JJC's Main Campus.

"Mainstreet was excellent! The clubs were really happy with the number of students who signed up and would be really happy to just get half of them involved...one of our best Mainstreets yet," Dilday said. "Special thanks to Suzette Hinkle and Amy Sims from our office for coordinating the event AND to the clubs and departments who participated."

Some of the many popular clubs and organizations that pitched their tables along this hallway consisted of the Wordeater, Culture Club, Comedy Club, Study Abroad,

and Veterans Alliance.

With its fitting name, the Wordeater, this print and e-zine arts publication is home for students to put out their short stories, artwork, poetry, photography and more. Contact Adam Heidenreich at aheidenr@jjc.edu and visit wordeater.org for more information. They are always accepting submissions from talented students.

The Culture Club is another fun one where Pati Macias, Crystal Macias and Julia Gallarzo are the backbone. During the year they plan to get their group together and take multiple trips around town to experience different cultures. Restaurants like Chinatown and some Italian places were mentioned as a start. The club plans to in the music, food and atmosphere of every culture.

Got jokes? Alec Jones, Andrew Wolverton, Devan Kohn and Club Adviser Marc Kaufman do. As members of the Comedy Club, they know how to have a good time. At Mainstreet they advertised their upcoming event Nerf Wars hosted by the club on Friday, Sept. 27 from 3:30-5 p.m. on the first floor of J Building. It is \$1 per game, so come with a team (up to 5) or join others there.

Looking for something else to do on Friday night? Also be sure to check out the Open Mic event on the JJC Bridge on the same day and time. The Comedy Club meets Fridays at 3:30-5 in room K-2002.

Two words: Study Abroad.

At the Study Abroad table at Mainstreet, faculty Adviser Tamara Brattoli had all the facts. Opportunities to study abroad during the next few semesters include programs in China, Costa Rica, France and England. There are required classes for some, although Brattoli jokes that science is not one that is offered abroad. All credits taken are transferrable, she emphasizes, so the semester or couple of weeks spent abroad in the summer will be well worth it. Search the JJC website and get all the details.

The Veterans Alliance club is not just for veterans. Behind the table stood retired Army Sgt. Jonathan "Serge" Jefferson. The humble Jefferson made it clear that anyone and everyone is welcome to come support our troops through this club because he says, "When I came back, everything was different...places had moved; it was hard to get used to it... but it was good to have support."

Other clubs represented were the Progressive Student Union (JJCPSU.org), Criminal Justice (contact David J. Decimhan), Horticulture Club (Ramiro Guzman), Gamer + Anime Club (Dan Scoggin) and the Blazer of course.

So, pick an interest, have fun and make a name for yourself this year!



Everyone had a good time at Mainstreet, but no one had more fun than Alec Jones and Andrew Wolverton of the Comedy Club, pictured here at top left. Clockwise from there, Sgt. Jonathan "Serge" Jefferson mans the Veteran's Alliance Club table. Next, Faculty Adviser Tamara Brattoli answers a student's question at the Study Abroad table. Finally, the scope of Mainstreet is clearly shown in an overview shot of the JJC student organization event.

Photos by Lindsey Cantrell



Review

Rock Allegiance Tour: insanely awesome!

BY BRANDY ANDERSEN

Staff Writer

The Rock Allegiance Tour started in St. Paul, Minn., with an amazing line-up of bands who have been around awhile and some who, although new, are well known throughout the metal and rock communities. I had the opportunity to see this tour in Bloomington, Ill., on Aug. 29.

The bands there included Airbourne, who opened the concert with their Australian rock and roll music. They set the stage with their loud and crazy music. Jumping into the crowd, Joel O'Keefe ripped up a solo in the middle of the audience.

Coming up next in line

was a well-known band by most rock lovers, All That Remains. This heavy metal rock band from Springfield, Mass., opened

strong with famous songs that you would hear on the radio. Lead singer Philip Labonte screamed his heart out performing new and old

songs.

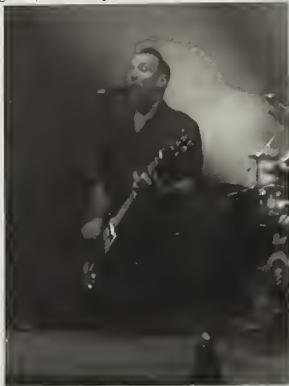
The next band that performed was a bit confusing to me, but I am not one to judge. HIM or His Infernal Majesty, was next up on the list. This Finnish rock band from Helsinki, formed in 1991 with lead singer Ville Valo. They played easy rock music with playful dancing on stage. HIM played melodic rock that caught the attention of a lot of fan girls in the audience.

Last but not least was the headliner of this tour, Volbeat. A Danish metal band which was formed in Copenhagen. They play a fusion of rock and roll, heavy metal, schlager, and rockabilly. They were inspired by classic rock and roll artists such as Elvis

Presley and Johnny Cash, as well as modern hard rock, groove metal, alternative rock and hardcore groups. Vocalist and guitarist Michael Poulsen, with his amazing voice belted out songs of different octaves that made the crowd go wild.

During one performance, a fight broke out and the band stopped playing to ask them to please stop. Volbeat is an inspirational band that is full of energy and optimism, they even had some of the fans join them on stage to present the last song!

It was an amazing concert and I encourage those who don't know them to give them a shot and listen to what they have to offer.



Michael Poulsen of Volbeat, necking out. Photo by Matt Wagner

What lurks in the dark: 'Riddick'

BY PATRICK O'CARROLL

Staff Writer

The gripping final installment in the sci-fi trilogy, "Riddick," is an exciting and entertaining watch.

By Patrick O'Carroll

Director David Twohy has done it again, bringing back Riddick, (Vin Diesel) who has rapidly become sci-fi bulls' favorite mirror-eyed anti-hero. "Riddick" is a film that gets to the root of the

first installment "Pitch Black", and follows the intergalactic fugitive through his blackened battle grounds, featuring a whole new set of monsters hiding in the dark.

So strap on your daylight goggles and hold on for the ride of your life, because this film grabs your attention and will not let go. It starts out in the same way as the previous films have; we find Riddick stranded on yet another planet in Twohy's

fictional universe of the macabre.

For fans wondering what happened after Riddick's run in with the previous adversaries, the Necromongers, do not fret. Although there is only one small snippet of the events between the previous films and this one, the montages still give enough information to keep you invested in Riddick's current "exploits." Joined by his favorite kind of people, mercenaries, or mere as commonly referred to, both

are trapped on a deadly planet needing to come up with a plan before the things that go bump in the night find them. Predictably, they do.

That is where the fun really begins. Kill after kill, the bodies start piling up on both sides, as Riddick is confronted by Johns (played by Matt Nable) whose longstanding grudge forces Riddick to face both ferocious monsters and the demons of his past. Fans of the first film

undoubtedly remember Johns and the role that makes him unforgettable.

Some key aspects that I love most about the film are Twohy's exceptional plot connections between "Pitch Black" and "The Chronicles of Riddick." Like all great action flicks that are judged by their special effects, "Riddick" succeeds with their inventive use of graphics are fantastic throughout the film. It allowed scenes to develop with a suspense that speeds your heart up, keeping you pinned to the seat until the very end.

The acting will not win an Academy Award, but the performances exceed expectations. Diesel's dark, raspy, yet soothing voice is familiar to the series, but one aspect developed more thoroughly in this film is Riddick's compassion for others.

Matt Nable has a breakthrough performance in his first supporting role, and excels alongside Diesel. Considering the genre, I am giving this film a solid 5 out of 5 stars. It returns to the original theme of being stuck on a planet and fighting off deadly creatures, a concept that I loved about the first film.

I recommend the film for any action/sci-fi junkie out there like me. I do recommend watching the first two installments of the Riddick series before seeing this movie as it would help understand some of the plot and character motives.

The RMU TRUTH

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A mighty game in the making

BY BRITTNEY ANDERSEN
Production Manager

For those of you who were big fans of the old hit game series Mega Man, comes a brand new game in development right now. What is Mighty No. 9 you ask? Mighty No. 9 is a new side scrolling action game with modern technology that incorporates the fans' input.

You play as Beck, the ninth in a line of the Mighty Number robots, and the only one not infected by an unknown computer virus that has caused all robotic creatures around the world to run rampant. You use weapons and abilities stolen from your enemies to transform and take down your fellow Mighty Number robots and confront the

final evil that threatens the planet! There are only six levels to the game at this point, but there can be more if they meet their goals.

The game will be made for the PC and will be available through Steam and DRM-free digital distribution methods. Other platforms, like home consoles, Mac, and Linux, are also a goal, but in order to get to those goals, they need the money, via stretch goals. If they

reach said goals, anyone funding the project will be given a gift and will be allowed to choose which version of the game they would like to receive. They estimate the release date for the game to be in spring 2015.

All the developers working on this project are Japanese game designers experienced in the genre, more so in Mega Man. The man leading this group of

designers is none other than Keiji Inafune himself, the original creator of Mega Man! All fans will also be updated by this mighty group and their progress on the game from blogs, podcasts, and videos.

This project is on Kickstarter.com so it can involve YOU, the fans! Not only will bringing the fans in make it possible for developers to make the game exactly as they imagine it through crowd funding, but it will also allow them to bring devoted fans of this genre together to help the developers in forming different qualities of the game's design.

So if you were ever a big fan of Mega Man, you just might be interested in this game. For more information on how to get involved

with the project and how to donate, visit kickstarter.com. The funding period is from September 31 through Oct. 1, so you still have some time to donate to the cause.



Concept art of what the game might look like. Courtesy of Kickstarter.com



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—Amber Diaz '12, mathematics-computer science specialization major,
Peace Corps volunteer teaching math in Burkina Faso, West Africa

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Just when you thought you were safe: GTA V comes to your neighborhood

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

Lines were formed outside numerous Gamestops for the midnight Sept. 17 release of the highly anticipated installment of the "Grand Theft Auto" series, a game already gamishing rave reviews. Just as the previous two games set the bar for video game performance and intricacy, "GTA 5" has certainly followed suit.

Created by Rockstar North and published by Rockstar Games, the game is unapologetically violent and vulgar, yet immensely entertaining. Like peeling away layers on an onion, the game is constantly revealing new capabilities, vehicles and cultural references, filled with exaggerated humor and satire.

The player switched between three characters, simultaneously guiding them through as series of heist schemes, as you work to

strike it rich with each of them. It is exciting gameplay, especially the heists, where you must rotate characters in conjunction and on the fly, each providing mutual support to complete the mission.

The game uses the fictional state of San Andreas and its main city Los Santos, which is a virtual copy of Southern California with a different name. Neighborhood and landmarks are often copied

down to a tee which, true to the size of Los Angeles, makes the game a vast and sprawling city.

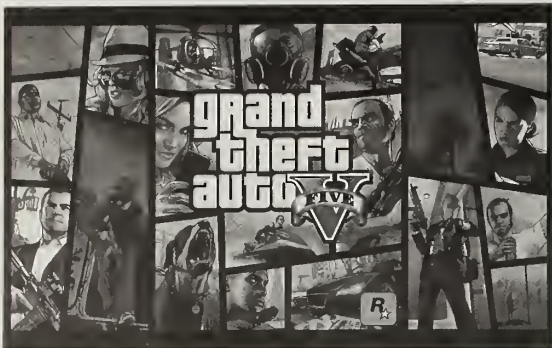
The trademark freedom that one can operate within the game is intact and is amazingly

intricate. Keeping up to date on your smart phone and social media obligations, *Lifeline* and *Blepper*, is at times essential to your character's development throughout the game.

The multitude of vehicles you can operate is incredible. It's as if the designers were checking off a grocery list of cars of all kinds from Lamborghinis to BMWs, speedboats, submarines, dirt bikes, helicopters, a fighter jet, and a bi-plane.

The game is one of the last to be released in this generation of game consoles, but is expected to be released on both Playstation 4 and Xbox One. There is also online gameplay, which promises to be an improvement over *Grand Theft Auto 4*.

Engaging and addicting, this is a great game and another high-water mark for Rockstar, and taken all together, it could be one of the best video games ever made.



Courtesy of usgamer.net

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Women's Volleyball

Lady Wolves struggle to find consistency

The JJC Womens Volleyball team has been riding the roller coaster for much of the regular season, and that ride continued last week.

The Lady Wolves posted a 25-12, 25-16, 25-12 win over Milwaukee Area Tech on Sept. 19, bringing their overall record to 11-12.

That win followed a tough and competitive loss to Madison College, the No. 1 ranked team in NJCAA Division III on Sept. 17. The final scores were 19-25, 17-25, 19-25.

"I thought that we battled well with Madison," head coach Kisha Cameron said. "We have to limit the little mistakes to keep ourselves in the game."

In the Madison game, Madeline Hipp and Paige Cline led the attack with 8 kills each. Jesse Dolman finished with 7 digs in the contest.

In the win against Milwaukee

Area Tech, Hipp had 12 kills while Lizette Gonzalez and Dolman finished with 7 kills each. Dolman also posted 11 digs.

The Lady Wolves participated in the Illinois Valley Community College tournament the week before, on Sept. 14, winning one of three games against some solid competition.

They opened the tournament with a loss to Wabonsee Community College by a score of 21-25, 26-28, 19-25. Hipp again led with 12 kills in the contest. Bianca Jimenez had 11 digs, while Gonzalez tallied 10 digs.

The Lady Wolves came back for a win in game two against Harper College, 25-22, 18-25, 28-26, 25-22. Hipp led the way with 17 kills and 10 digs for Joliet. Dolman contributed 12 kills and 11 digs, and Cline chipped in with 11 kills.

The Lady Wolves fell in their

final game of the tournament to Illinois Valley by scores of 24-26, 12-25, 16-25. Dolman led the team with 9 kills and 7 digs, while Hipp chalked up 8 kills and 15 digs.

"This weekend we faced some tough opponents," Cameron said after the tournament. "We still need to continue on playing consistently, but we were able to battle everyone that we played. It was a nice show of us playing together as a team."

The Lady Wolves next play at home on Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. against South Suburban College. They then go on the road to play the College of Dupage, Sept. 26, Olivet Nazarene College JVs, Sept. 30, and Harper College, Oct. 1, before returning home on Oct. 5 to play Blackhawk East College at 10:30 a.m. and Moraine Valley Community College at 2:30 p.m.

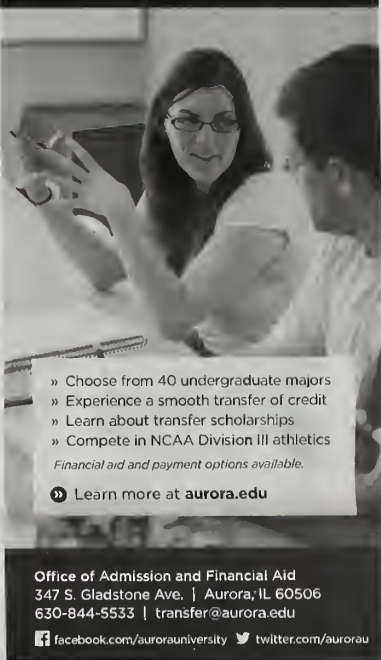


Jesse Dolman, BriHanna Sawin and Bianca Jimenez celebrate after a point.

Photos courtesy of JJC Athletic Department

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SPORTS



Wolves forward, Jonathan Iniguez, 9, splits Milwaukee Area Technical College defenders on the way to the goal during Sept. 4 home game.

Photo courtesy of Athletic Department

Optimism surrounds men's soccer season

Bulletin: Coach Cris Trillo won his 100th game as JJC topped Harper College on Sept. 20, 3-0.

By ELIAS ALBERT

Staff writer

The 2013 Joliet Junior College Men's Soccer Team's season is well underway, and the Wolves are attempting to make the season a successful one. Thus far, the Wolves have a regular season record of 3-2-1 after falling to Hartland Community College on Sept. 13, 3-1.

Coach Cristobal Trillo, former three-time Region IV Coach of the Year, described the team in a very upbeat and positive fashion. "I feel optimistic for this season,"

said Trillo, an enthusiasm he attributes to the team's maturity.

The team's eight sophomore members are the most the Wolves have had in years, according to Trillo. The sophomores bring with them experience to go along with the high energy potential of the first year players.

Goalkeeper Luis Rivera, a Bolingbrook High School product, has been sensational in the eyes of the head coach, which is strong praise for a position player with such high expectations.

Trillo also expects a great remainder of the season from Freshman Forward Leatile Masula, from Minooka, who earned the honor of NJCAA National Player of the Week, for

his five goals and three assists over a two game span.

Though the team possesses great potential, there are still reasons for concern, as Trillo emphasized the team's lack of depth, alluding to the fact that there are not very many options at each position.

Even though these shortcomings may hurt the team, Trillo believes that the team can definitely overcome these obstacles and play very competitively. So long as he feels that team can improve in various areas, they will give themselves a chance in every game, but the need to avoid injuries is palpable, and will remain a real problem.

So despite concerns about the team's depth, the roster that

Trillo has put together and their performance thus far give ample reason to be optimistic about the rest of the season.

For fans wishing to attend and

lend their support, the last regular season home game will be against Triton college on Oct. 2 as the Wolves try to avenge their 3-2 Sept. 6 loss.

Womens season canceled

The JJC Athletic Department has canceled the Women's Soccer Team games for the 2013 season. According to the athletic department, the team simply did not have enough players to field a competitive team this fall.

The athletic department is currently in the middle of a search for a new coach. Gino Di Nardo, who served as women's coach

for several years, resigned from the position during the summer, according to JJC Sports Information Director Stephanie Kneip.

Kneip said some candidates were interviewed Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 19 and 20, but that the naming of a new coach was not imminent.

The Lady Wolves finished the 2012 season with a 9-7 record.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

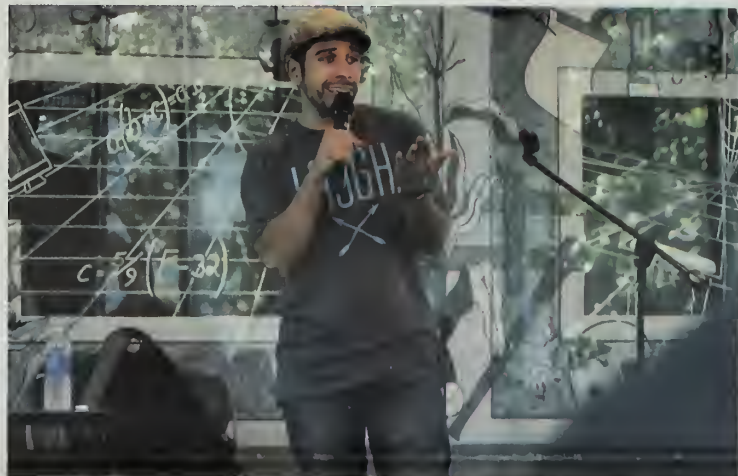


Freshman Leatile Masula has been a leader for the Joliet Junior College men's soccer team this season. He is tied for second in NJCAA Division III standings with 7 goals and 3 assists for the season. He was named NJCAA Division III Player of the Week after his hat trick and two assists against Harper College in a 5-0 win on Aug. 28. The Wolves are 3-2-1 overall this season.



Freshman Madeline Hipp has had a productive season so far for the Joliet Junior College women's volleyball team. Hipp leads the team in kills (220/3.24 per set) and digs (229/3.37 per set). She leads NJCAA Division III in kills as well. She was named to the all-tournament team for the Kankakee Community College and South Suburban College tournaments. The team is currently 11-12 overall.

Comedian brings laughs to JJC



Comedian Erik Rivera performs on the Bridge during Spanish Heritage Week in late September.

Photo by Lindsey Cantrell

By RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

"Come on down, have a seat, we're about to do a comedy show now," said the mic'd up comedian to students passing by on the Center Bridge, often times singing out an individual, "It's Hispanic Heritage Month, and I'm the instructor!"

The marquee event celebrating Hispanic heritage, Erik Rivera entertained students in a one time show held on Sept. 26, right away engaging with the audience.

"Come on now, sit down Miss!" He implored to a passing student, who then raised her book indicating she had to go to class, "A book? That's the reason why you're not going to stay!" She broke out laughing along with the audience, "Oh class!" he exclaimed and paused, "You don't need to go to class!"

A regular at some of the nation's top comedy clubs, Rivera has raised his profile through constant touring and television appearances on Comedy Central, "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," and "MTV Tr3s."

Born in the New York City suburb of New Rochelle, Rivera's career began in earnest in 2004,

when began working the city's comedy clubs more frequently. "The great thing about New York is that you can get up two sometimes three times in a night," He explained.

"Right now my career has been going great; I've been working on a one hour special for Comedy Central which will come out in 2014, pitching some other things to Showtime and HBO."

Rivera's recent success is a far cry from his career's beginnings. "It's an uphill climb; I've done so shows in tiny places and dives, with no one there sometimes."

"I went to school for communications, but still didn't really know what I wanted to do, and eventually took up comedy. I just like being on stage," He said in an interview after his show. "I guess growing up the smallest kid in school I had no choice, it was either get picked on or make them laugh."

Rivera performs numerous college hosted events. "That's where they (JJC) found me actually, was at a college conference." Said Rivera, who after the show at JJC would later that day perform at Concordia University in River Forest, IL.

"Hispanic Heritage Month means I'm busy from like mid September to early October," he said jokingly. "It's cause there are so many Hispanic

comedians out there." Including the show at JJC, in the next two weeks, five of his next eight tour dates were at colleges.

Much of his act centers on the nuances and disagreements he has had with former and current relationships. Fluent in Spanish, in one joke he confesses to using the language as a way to gain the upper hand in an argument with his fiancé, "See, I only said latinas and onions, but when I said that, now she thinks it's serious," admits Rivera.

He explained his fear of getting married, "My parents just celebrated their 35 year anniversary, but I don't think they're staying together because of love, I just think they're waiting each other out! My dad will come home and my mom will say, 'ohh you're still alive? It's okay, I'll wait you out!'"

"A lot of people think I don't like my parents," he continues, "But that's not true, I love my parents, they're just to have fun with." Said a laughing Rivera.

In one particular bit he pleads with women to stop watching romantic comedies because it raises expectations in a relationship unreasonably. "My girlfriend asked me why can't I be more like Ryan Gosling from 'The Notebook.' He

lamented, "Why can't I be more like that? Cause it's a movie! It's not real!"

His humor often plays off of the crowds reaction; "I'm a father now, me and my fiancé had a baby," said Rivera who cut applause short by saying, "No, no, don't clap for me, I didn't do anything! I didn't carry it, I didn't birth it, and I'm sure not breastfeeding him! It'd be nice to get recognition for something, but I know that won't happen." Currently residing in Los Angeles, and now firmly established in the comedy world, Rivera figures only to grow in popularity the more television or movie appearances he has the opportunity to make.

Asked if he harbored plans of starring in his own sitcom he responded, "Yea I guess it's the main goal for most comedians: to get a long running sitcom like Seinfeld, Ray Romano, or Kevin James." He said of his long term ambitions.

"If it's something you want to do then you have to just keep trying at it," explained Rivera on pursuing their own professional goals. He also said you should not get caught up in hearsay. "You know, it's so hard, especially with social media, but you just can't listen to what people are saying about you all the time."

Financial aid office fights fraud

By RICHARD MASKA
AND ALEX FORGUE

Co-Editors

A fraudulent organization containing almost one hundred members were thwarted while attempting to exploit thousands of dollars from Federal financial aid, in what was the largest such ring exposed at JJC in at least ten years.

Official acknowledgment from JJC and the Inspector General's office of the Department of Education, (DOE), came when the Director of Student Financial Aid, David Seward said in a recent interview, "About two years ago, we did have a ring that affected Joliet Junior College. Or attempted to I should say."

"We had 91 students that we identified; 69 of those were actually enrolled," Seward believes that if the fraud ring was successful, the loss "would have been over \$500,000 dollars."

"Students would enroll in courses; and from there, they either don't attend the courses or they begin not to fully participate," Seward said explaining the criminal process.

"Their hope is that the financial aid office and the college in general won't notice any improprieties taking place." The would-be student then waits for the excess aid is distributed after the cost of tuition is covered. "Once they get the excess aid in their pocket ... they stop attending altogether."

Working in conjunction with the Inspector General, Seward said because of detection early in the process, "We were able to catch the infraction) and determine what was going on before we released any funding to the students, so we were able to prevent any particular loss from that ring."

"We started to notice things beginning in fall of 2011," said Seward. They quickly moved to determine the extent of it and basically we concluded our processes by the middle of spring of 2012." The case was then turned over to the Attorney General's Office for prosecution.

In addition to stopping the illegal activity, he and his staff were able to create a common link between

See FRAUD on page 11



EDITORIAL

JJC's new mobile app

If you haven't heard, Joliet Junior College has released the first-ever JJC mobile app. The app was released in August for Android devices and is still being developed for Apple devices. The new mobile allows students to view their final grades from past courses, see their class schedule for the day, and allows them to keep up with the latest events on campus.

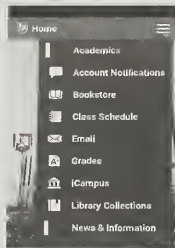
One of the first things that stood-out from the app was the app's neat and well-designed interface. The design of the app is not only stylish, but easy to use. When viewing events, the student has the ability to choose either

school events or athletic events; this allows the two categories to be easily sorted out.

The JJC mobile app will always have an up-to-date list of events that are scheduled to take place on campus; this makes it easier for students to get more involved in what's happening around campus.

The app also allows students to access iCampus and the bookstore online; the downside is that these are not natively incorporated into the app, but rather just a link that will open up the sites in your phone's web browser which takes away the ease-of-use of these features on a mobile

device. However, the school is currently in the process of replacing iCampus with newer learning-management software which will most-likely have its own app.



Courtesy of jjc.edu

While the app allows you to view final grades from classes you took in past semesters, it does not allow you to view your current grades through the app which is the feature that students would utilize most.

The app also allows students to get directions to other JJC campuses which is useful if you're a student who needs to travel to another campus.

Despite some lack of features, the app is still worth downloading for receiving the latest news and information on what's happening at JJC.

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Playing political chicken with Obamacare

By RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

Leading up to the government's shutdown-shutdown back in late September, Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, thought he had the ideal strategy to reach his goal of destroying the Affordable Care Act (ACA) — Obamacare. His plan: a televised recital of "Green Eggs and Ham," to his young daughters from the U.S. Senate floor.

See, Cruz believed by launching an all-night filibuster, complete with a reading of Dr. Seuss's classic children's story from the United States Senate floor, would be effective enough to convince a body full of Democrats to delay a vote on a bill that does not defund Obamacare.

If it seems strange, you would not be in the minority for thinking so. But this was more of the same as far as tactics go for the Republican's far right wing, the Tea Party. And it was more than logical, after all, it was 8:00 at the Cruz household and time for bed.

This is just another chapter in the long running political stalemate over budget battles, the debt ceiling, entitlements, and Obamacare. It has plagued the government, led to government shutdown, and is frankly embarrassing to countries around the world; who must be wondering how our government can operate so ineptly. The American people are wondering that question too.

The law guarantees

everyone access to quality and affordable insurance, and the Obama Administration projects up to seven million Americans will enroll in the Affordable Care Act in the first year alone. Their hope is to reach the roughly 50 million Americans currently uninsured, by offering reasonably priced health care, and guaranteed coverage regardless of whether the patient has pre-existing condition.

The law has been subject to attacks from Republicans long before it was signed into law in 2010. The Cruz reading was just one of a long line of negative overtures about a law not even in effect yet.

In response, the Democrats were visibly irritated. At a time when the government shutdown was looming, the Senate body was being subjected to "Green Eggs and Ham." A fine kids book, but hardly appropriate for the occasion, "I don't know if he actually read it." Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., was shaking his head afterwards.

The story is meant to teach us the moral of withholding judgment until experiencing it themselves, "Sam said he didn't like green eggs and ham for a long time. And then when he finally tried it, he liked it," said Schumer, who must have felt as if he was reading "Green Eggs and Ham" to children.

Because while the Senate was being forced to debate the finer points of a children's book, the chance to avert a government shutdown came and went, leaving some 800,000 to be workers to be thrown into a furloughed hiatus

without pay.

I am not sure if the Tea Party thought that a government shut down does not defund Obamacare. The money needed to fund the law, which will take effect Jan. 1, 2014, has already been budgeted regardless of their political showmanship.

Behind the charade of such political posturing, the Oct. 17 deadline for raising the debt ceiling is rapidly approaching. Similar to a salary cap in hockey or basketball, the debt ceiling is simply an arbitrary limit on the amount the government can borrow to pay for bills that have already been accrued.

While the ceiling is little more than numbers on a piece of paper, failure to raise the debt limit would force the government to default on its payments. This would result in an unprecedented blunder that the Treasury says would greatly restrict our national borrowing capabilities, potentially driving the economy back into recession.

But akin to a child playing with fire, the Tea Party seems content in continuing its efforts to use these budget debates as leverage in order to demand cuts and alterations to Obamacare and other entitlement programs. It is a brand of politics that is more similar to horse-trading than it is to effective governing.

"We (the Republican controlled House) won't raise the debt ceiling without concessions," said House Speaker John Boehner R-Ohio, who has repeatedly demanded such unreasonable negotiations.

As of Sunday, talks had generated the possibility of a short-term solution that would delay a government default for at least six weeks. While such a deal would spare the country from the fiscal disaster in the short term, the issue would still need to be dealt with on a long-term basis.

Rudderless as this brand of politics seems, it is expected from a caucus that has voted to repeal Obamacare 42 times. Each time the Senate has struck the measure down, and both Democratic leaders and President Obama have repeatedly said the health care law will stand.

It is not clear whether the Tea Party members of Congress do not understand that defaulting will be a disaster, or whether they believe that killing Obamacare is worth chancing that disaster.

Such is the willingness of the far-right-wing of the Republican Party to destroy Obamacare, that it has become bent on an agenda that easily justifies shutting down the government, deadlocking our debt ceiling, causing a national default on our loans, and shattering the full faith and credit of the United States. Such a default would be unprecedented in American history and would represent a new low point for political incompetence on Capitol Hill.

Hopefully by the time this goes to print, a deal would have been made averting this display of political stupidity. As it stands now on Sunday afternoon as I write this, I would not make that bet.

Blazer Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less.

We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, email, or by dropping them off at the Blazer office at F-1009.

Send Letters to:
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Panel of experts discuss domestic violence

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

A survivor of 11 years of domestic violence, the keynote speaker at a recent panel presentation at JUC aimed at raising awareness for Domestic Violence month recounted her terrifying story.

Although those who attended the discussion know her name, her identity will be withheld here. Included on the panel were community service advocates, members of law enforcement, and a prosecution attorney, who all spoke of the fight to end abuse within the household.

Organizing the event, Associate Professor of Counseling Sherri Morrow began by explaining the origins and mission of Domestic Violence Month.

"The intent was to connect battered women advocates across the nation, all of whom are working to end violence against women and their children... We honor the victims of domestic violence," Morrow said. "We honor them with our presence; we honor them with raising awareness."

The need for the month of

honor was typified with a quote from the keynote speaker about the reality of domestic violence and its prevalence.

"With one in three women experiencing domestic violence in their lifetime, whether you realize it or not, someone you know is, or will be affected by domestic violence," she said. "A mother, sister, daughter, friend; I am here to break the silence."

She told the story of her relationship with her ex-husband, who was a co-worker when they first started dating in March, 1999. He rode a Harley, and had rough exterior, yet he was also kind, and held religious values.

Their relationship blossomed despite early incidents where he lost his temper or lied about his actions. Ignoring the red flags, she believed that all he needed was to be loved and cared for, and that soon, he would share those feelings.

But when she began experiencing doubts as to the longevity of the relationship she planned a trip to her mothers, needing time to think for herself.

"What happened next would change my life forever," she said. "He started hitting me; punching

me in the head. He wouldn't stop; I could feel the searing pain as I could see his first hitting me in slow motion... what was happening? I could hardly believe this was real."

The next thing she remembers is waking up in court being asked if she wanted to press charges. But after an impassioned plea related from his mother that he would change his behavior, seek therapy and work to repair the relationship, she stayed with him.

The reform did not last long as he assaulted her in another violent episode that nearly killed her. Clearly shaken and isolated from her friends and family, she was trapped in a cycle of fear. But still believing that she needed him, and he needed her love, the relationship continued. The two were married and soon after came the birth of their son.

While the physical altercations stopped, the abuse continued in the form of threats, insults and intimidation. This caused her to apply for an Order of Protection, a temporary legal document that orders the abuser to cease their actions and avoid contact with the victim.

She also sought support from

women's advocate groups such as the Groundwork Domestic Violence Program a division of the Joliet based Guardian Angel Community Services.

Representing the organization, Sheryl Peters explained the services they provide, such as a 24-hour hotline, emergency shelters, legal and medical advocacy, individual and group counseling.

"We will not pressure you to leave or ask, 'why don't you just leave him?'" she said. "We will sit and listen and he understanding, and we know that when you are ready to leave or get out of that relationship, you will make that decision."

But this assistance did not end the abusive episodes right away for the keynote speaker. Faced with the possibility of losing his son, her husband's rhetoric became even more serious upon learning of the volunteer organization's involvement.

"I will get you...," he said. "I'm going to get my son; I don't care what I have to do to you. You will be gone, and I won't have to worry about getting (my son), I will take you out to get him."

So she sought the assistance

of police officers like Danielle Malone, as well as attorneys like Amie Simpson. Malone, a Shorewood patrol officer, spoke about domestic violence cases taking place mere miles from campus.

An attorney of the Will County Domestic Violence Prosecuting Unit, Simpson told victims to document incidents of abuse with photographs at the time of abuse and afterwards.

Empowered by such support and knowledge, the victim asked a judge to grant a new order of protection, to which an automatic two-year extension was issued. The order gave her the safety and opportunity to start moving on with her life and begin her process of healing, aided by her presence, she said, of her kind, and thoughtful son.

"Today I stand before you not as a victim, but as a survivor... an advocate proud to tell my story with nothing to hide... I don't believe in regrets I have worked very hard to reclaim my life, and I don't believe in regrets. I believe in mistakes, lessons, and experiences we can learn from. And I believe in being truly loved without exception."

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'Stardust' comes to JJC campus

BY LINDSEY CANTRELL

Photo Editor

Dr. Philipp R. Heck, of the Field Museum in Chicago, was invited by JJC's Department of Natural Sciences and Trackman Planetarium to give some of his insight and knowledge about stardust from meteorites on Sept. 26, 2013.

Astronomy professor Noelia D'Crux put on the event and held refreshments at 4:15 p.m., while the talk was to be given from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Heck's background is with the Department of Geology and has carried him from the University of Chicago, the Robert A. Prizker Center for Meteorites and Polar Studies, the Chicago Center for Cosmochemistry, finally to the Field Museum of Natural History.

Pre-solar grains are real stardust, solid samples of stars. They are the oldest material on the Earth and scientists are able to study our cosmic origins by studying what's left out there to find.

Heck has the privilege of looking at different meteorites from all over and studies them carefully in labs before they are classified and put on display at the museum.

During the talk, he discussed the stardust material that is extracted from meteorites and where they come from in the universe. Many are found in the asteroid belt in which the pre-solar matter is so rare and exotic. To show its age, he mentioned that some of these grains and minerals were formed clear before the start of our solar system.

Two of Heck's findings were brought to the lecture—one of which was actual pre-solar nano diamonds. He compared it to a mixture of water and alcohol being which it has the same basic crystal structure in smaller form. The other discovery was called an Allende meteorite that he picked up himself. Other times he was

able to be on the spot finding research included a meteorite landing in Mexico in 1969 and the Stardust Mission launched in 1999 in Florida.

The very first modern interstellar dust grains were actually captured in space and identified later in labs. Pre-solar grains are like little time capsules in the universe.

He went on to tell the story of his Mexico trip and presented the meteorite that was found to be 4.567 billion years old (the first and therefore oldest material that condensed on Earth). Another expedition taken by Heck was at Sutter's Mill in Northern California where he was able to recover 77 meteorites total (material of CM Carbonaceous Chondrite Breccia).

After these research trips, Heck and his team study them by taking the pre-solar grains and putting them through a chemistry analysis spectrometry process to get the isotope's abundances and ratios of stardust. These researchers identify this mineral as pre-solar by its isotopic composition. Meteorites are mostly made up of elements like Oxygen, Silicon, Calcium and Iron among others.

Another fact given was that the sun-like stars containing no cosmic dust are called "Red Giants." Much more of his information like this can be found in the exhibits at the museum.

Towards the end, Heck even mentioned that one of his friends is able to make a living in Italy on going out and predicting some of the space elements of the future and coming up with information like this.

Heck summed up his lecture by stating a few extra facts about stardust from meteorites and left room for questions and comments at the end. The talk was very informative and encourages students to check out the many exhibits of real material at the Field Museum in downtown Chicago.

Students relive their 'coming out'

BY VICTORIA SHINER

Copy Editor

On Oct. 7, 2013 at 12 p.m. Safe Zone held an open conference in A1002 for their National Coming Out Day. Allies and members attended to hear students, Eric Fogue and Kim Freeman share their individual stories of coming out about their sexuality.

The meeting was based around the coming out stories of Fogue and Freeman. Eric Ford is a major in criminal justice and is in his second year at JJC. Kim Freeman is math education and special education major at JJC as well as a transfer student from Monmouth College.

Freeman's and Fogue's stories were a preview of what can be expected for the National coming Out Day on Oct. 11. Both of these students had different experiences with opening up about their sexual preference.

Freeman volunteered to tell her story to the Safe Zone group first. Like many others Freeman had a hard time opening up to her parents about her sexual preference. "I knew I had an attraction to girls," Freeman admitted. As a Christian it was

difficult opening up to her mother. It took falling into a depression to tell her mother about her sexual preference and after telling her Freeman was kicked out of her mother's house. Freeman admitted, "The hardest part was coming out to my mother."

Freeman then tells the group what helped her being open about her sexual preference, "The strongest support of friends, knowing that a school has groups such as GLOW and Safezone made me comfortable attending JJC."

Eric Fogue didn't struggle with the difficulties of opening up to his family. Growing up in a very supportive and accepting family Fogue's coming out was easy for his family to accept. Fogue struggled with denial of his sexual preference up until his senior year of high school.

Fogue realized he was gay when he developed a crush on his male best friend.

He recalled on how hard it was to open up to his best friend, "It was the 26th day of the second semester in 2012," Fogue said. Fogue said that it was that day he admitted to his friend that he was Bisexual.

At the time he wasn't able to

accept the word gay to describe him, so telling his friend he was bisexual was easier to open up and admit his feelings toward his friend. His friend was accepting although the feelings were not mutual.

With Fogue's wide support group of friends and family he is now able to say he is openly gay. "I'm glad I came out of the closet and now I can help others."

The meeting ended with a question and answer segment. The students openly answered the questions. Safe Zone director closed the meeting by informing the group of upcoming events.

These stories are examples of what Safe Zone has to offer. Safe Zone wants to make an impact on the students. They will attend classes and tell their coming out stories to JJC students.

Safe Zone also hosts awareness events; upcoming is the drag show and transgender day. The group also invites special guest speakers to raise awareness.

For more information about Safe Zone or the student group, GLOW, contact Diversity Advisory Council Chair Leader, Natalie Clark Maggitt at 815-280-2427.

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Police blotter

Student robbed at Commons

JJC Police are looking for two men who confronted and robbed a resident of Centennial Commons last week.

According to police, shortly after 5 p.m. on Oct. 7 a student resident of Centennial Commons was approached by two individuals in a threatening way and robbed. No weapons were used in the incident, which took place outside Building 4 of Centennial Commons.

The two suspects are male, African American, and in their 20s. The first is described as 5'10, roughly 300 pounds, with a beard and wearing a JJC hoodie and brown basketball shorts. The second is described as 5'9, 215 pounds, with light facial hair around the mouth, braids in his hair and wearing a gray shirt and jeans.

Residents are encouraged to report suspicious activity. Anyone with information related to this incident should contact Campus Police at (815) 280-2234.

Man charged

Responding to a domestic disturbance, JJC Police charged Brandon M. Montgomery of Joliet with a Notice of Trespass following a July 13 altercation with his ex-girlfriend.

According to police, the female victim told officers that Montgomery had choked her and dragged her out of a club in Markham, Ill., and also stated that Montgomery had pushed their baby's head into the crib because he would not stop crying. A counselor advised her to seek assistance from DCFS.

Domestic battery

Benjamin H. Prinity of Manhattan was arrested and

charged with one count of domestic battery after he and his girlfriend got into a physical altercation in JJC's East Lot on Aug. 5, according to JJC Police.

Police transported Prinity to Will County Adult Retention Center. According to police, he has also been charged with a Notice of Trespass for all JJC properties.

Cannabis possession

Mysean M. Gates was arrested and charged on Aug. 27 with one count of possession of cannabis/30 grams or under police said. Gates was found with the illegal substance at Centennial Commons.

Disability Awareness Day

Join student speakers as they discuss what it is like to be a college student and live with disabilities. Taking place on Oct. 22 and hosted on the Center Bridge, the event will have two time slots, the first from 8-9:15 a.m. the second will run 9:35-10:50 a.m.

Show off your singing voice

The Office for Student Activities will host a live band karaoke on the Center Bridge, Oct. 23 at 11 a.m. where participants can win prizes, and judges will be on hand to anoint the winning "JJC Idol." Sign up in advance through the OSA office, D-1010.

Trade fair

The Skilled Trades Career Fair is for JJC students with a mechanical or technical skill seeking jobs in a manufacturing or industrial environment. The event will take place at 1 p.m. in T-Building on Oct. 23. Participants are encouraged to bring resumes and to dress appropriately.

'Build a Baby Scarecrow'

A family orientated event where parents and kids will be provided with materials to create their own child-size scarecrow, will take place Saturday, Oct. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be held at the Early Childhood Center Play Yard, and will also include concessions, and fall season kids crafts. The cost is \$5 per scarecrow, or \$15 for a premium kids pass good for use on all the activities.

'Trunk or Treat'

JJC Halloween night festivities will include "Trunk or Treat, where volunteers fill their car trunk with candy, giving children the opportunity to trick or treat on the campus parking lot. The event will last from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Halloween night. Volunteers are also wanted for help with concessions, registration and clean-up.

Toy Raffle

The department is also currently hosting a raffle to win \$250 in toys for both boys and girls. The tickets are on sale until Dec. 14 when the drawing will take place. Raffle tickets are \$1 a

person. For any information on these events or the raffle, please contact the Early Childhood Center at jjc.edu/info/ecc.

Transfer advice

If you are planning to transfer to a four-year college or university after JJC, you can learn more about the process at a Transfer Advising Information Session on Oct. 22.

These group transfer advising sessions are open to all students intending to transfer as well as parents and supporters who are seeking more information regarding the transfer process. They are also open to any student who is still exploring their options regarding selecting a major.

Learn tips on selecting a transfer school and discover how to determine which courses are required for your major before you transfer.

Additional day and evening sessions are available.

Choose your date and register online at: <http://jjc.edu/info/transfer>, or contact Cheryl Turrisse at 815-280-2923. All sessions are held in A1002 on the Main Campus.

News briefs

Time for a film festival

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

The first ever film festival held at Joliet Junior College will take place Oct. 18 and 19 at the Main Campus Black Box Theater, room K-100T. The events are free of charge and open to anyone. Space is limited, and people are encouraged to acquire tickets in advance by calling 815-280-2200, or by stopping by the JJC box office, located near the theater.

Giselle Atterberry, film festival organizer and fine arts professor, explained the motivation for hosting the event, "Our goal was to involve students in a celebration of the all the arts, because film ... is something that cuts across all the various courses we all teach here in the fine arts department," said Giselle Atterberry, the film festival's organizer, and fine arts professor.

"There isn't an opportunity in the immediate area to see a film other than the large feature

movie theaters, so if you want the collaborative experience of seeing a film ... with a number of people who enjoy film and want the opportunity to discuss film, then somebody needs to throw a film festival! And we figured it ought to be us."

The festival was made possible due to a JJC grant awarded to the department for excellence, and will begin on Friday, Oct. 18 with "Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story," a semi-autobiographical feature film on the martial arts master, will be shown at 3:30 p.m.

Afterwards on the same day, "Amazing Chorus: Singing Out," a documentary about a lesbian and feminist choir based in Champaign, Ill., will be screened at 7 p.m. The film's producer Jay Rosenstein will be on hand to lead a discussion about the film and the choir. In addition to teaching at the University of Illinois, Rosenstein is a Peabody and Emmy winning independent filmmaker, and will answer questions after the movie is completed.

Concluding the festival on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m., "The Interrupters," an award winning documentary about the prevention of gang violence in Chicago will be screened. "Here's a film that says there is a way out of all this violence, and here's a film that shows there is a way around it," Atterberry said of the film. Special guest and real-life interrupter Ricardo "Coke" Williams will be on hand taking questions on his experiences as an interrupter.

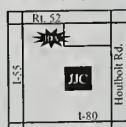
The fest is a collaborative effort emphasized Atterberry. "Quite a number of people coming together to make this happen, Steve Cheryl designed the poster, Nikki Flowers and Tammy Perkins were heavily involved, and our Department Chair, Danny Broderick has been behind us from the very beginning."

Attendees will also have the opportunity before the screenings to tour the Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery, located near the theater, featuring faculty art.



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JJC volunteer fair a success

BY TRAVIS OLSON

Staff Writer

More than a dozen local organizations took part in a JJC hosted volunteer fair that offered students the opportunity to increase their professional network, while also becoming a positive influence in their community. The various vendors set up along the C-concourse offered plenty of opportunities to become involved in charitable work.

The Rialto Square Theatre had representatives recruiting at the fair. "Volunteers can do a lot of things, scanning tickets, ushering, bartending, and selling concessions," said Sue Bienias and Leann Hoffrogge of the Rialto Square Theatre. "Everyone who works for the shows at the Rialto in black and white is a volunteer or our so-called 'Penguins.'"

Future shows at the historic theater include a Led Zeppelin tribute band, a production Green Day's American Idiot, and singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot.

The American Red Cross hodgepodge of services one

can take part in. "From disaster response, community outreach including preparedness and safety programs," Red Cross representative Jackie Stevenson said.

Amby Sims coordinated the volunteer fair. "I think it went great; remember these are all community area organizations. It's a great opportunity for students needing community service hours for a class, or for their own personal betterment, and really we're just trying to assist people with their professional goals."

"For people trying to get information they can come down to the OSA (Room D-1010) or Holistic Wellness office (D-1016) and I'll keep the list of vendors and their contact information." Sims said for those students who missed the fair.

The Naper Settlement Museum was another such organization. "At the city's museum we collect, preserve, and present historical artifacts," said Josh Charlier of Naper settlement. "We're interested in the sharing of history, and retelling of history; not only what life was like then, but how did things progress from there."

Charlier had said helpers of all ages can contribute. A junior program runs from April to October for children at least nine, and help from adults is needed year round. He continued, "Volunteers can lead tours, do collections and curatorial work."

Charlier was also recruiting for this Halloween's rendition of haunted Naperville the "Village of Fear." Volunteer actors who are at least 16 years of age are welcome to help so long as they are able to remember a few lines.

Community service like this gives students more than just the opportunity to dress in costume; it is an obvious highlight on a resume because it demonstrates the ability to balance work, and school while engaging in extracurricular proactive services in the community.

The Special Olympics for example is one service that would be relevant to occupations in a variety of fields such as education, medicine, athletics, marketing, and a host of other fields.

Representing the competition, Area 7 of the south Cook and Will Counties recruited help with their upcoming events. "Volunteers can help us with score keeping,

escorting athletes to the field or court, we have our tennis ball retrieval guys; we like to call them our mini Wimbledon's," said Alice Hoekska, Special Olympics.

On Bocce ball courts, four to five volunteers are needed per court, and there are 20 courts. Twenty volunteers are needed for the basketball courts. "We just had 110 people show up for our tennis event down in Frankfort; the more people we can get to sign up the smoother the event will run." These competitions culminate into a State-wide tournament that take place at Illinois State University every June.

The Will County Forest Preserve was recruiting members for environmental cleanup and restoration throughout the area. They will host an event here at JJC on Oct. 27th. "We will have volunteers from University of St. Francis coming; mainly cutting and stemming non-native brush so that the native brush can grow in its place," said Renee Gauchat.

"We are in the business of preserving the land and animals," Gauchat said, stressing the importance of their work. "With

volunteer help we are able to provide a lot more programs, and access at a cheaper price."

Most vendors stressed the importance of even the smallest contribution or amount of time pledged. "The events can run all day," said Hoekska representing the Special Olympics "but the group just asks for a couple of hours from the volunteers."

"I'm getting goose-bumps," Stevenson said rubbing her arms while explaining a Red Cross program that allows families in disaster zones the opportunity to speak with relative servicemen and women overseas.

Other charities offer a more do-it-yourself approach, such as the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, who asks that volunteers go around their neighborhood asking for donations of old clothing. After leaving large collection bags at their neighbors' houses, the volunteer returns later to collect them. The charity also accepts furniture, shoes, cars and other essential needs.

If you are interested in the above opportunities, please contact Amy Sims at asims@ajic.edu. Her office room number is D-1010.

Concordia University Chicago Inspiring service

"I've participated in Concordia Youth Ministry, and I've been the leader of the Women's Ministry and Ministry with Chicago teams. Just having spiritual life on campus is impactful, being able to be involved in so many different areas—you don't have to choose just one."

—Lorenda Kirby, elementary education (LTE) major from Lincoln, Illinois

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Hurricane season

2013 storm season hits Mexico with intensity

BY JACQUELINE VELEZ

Staff Writer

The past month, the pacific coast of Mexico was hit by the Hurricane Manuel and the Gulf coast was hit as well for Hurricane Ingrid. On September 19, 2013, CNN reported "Manuel, which strengthened into a hurricane Wednesday evening, was one of three storms bringing devastating deluges and flooding to Mexico. At least 80 people were killed in the storms," but it was just the beginning of a devastating month for Mexico and its people.

Days before, on September 16, 2013, USA Today reported "Tropical Storm Manuel swept onto Mexico's Pacific coast Sunday while Hurricane Ingrid swirled offshore on the other side of the country, as heavy rains and landslides caused at least 21 deaths and led authorities to evacuate thousands." Meaning both Hurricanes hit the Mexican country the same week.

Manuel's first stop was Guerrero, where thousands of tourist that were vacationing on the coast of Acapulco, had to be evacuated immediately. Manuel kept on going through Morelia, Colima, Guadalajara and hitting again with intensity on Sinaloa. Even though Hurricane Manuel was weakened by its stop on Manzanillo, Colima; the elevated rain caused rivers to overflow and mudflows to destroy thousands of houses leaving people without any property.

On the other hand, Hurricane Ingrid which was the second hurricane of the Atlantic storm season, attacked the states of

Vera Cruz, Tamaulipas, Puebla, Oaxaca and parts of Tabasco. Ingrid was also a light hurricane but what made it worst was the heaviest rain that came along with it.

Ericka Pino, Meteorologist from Univision Chicago, a Hispanic channel informed prior to some of the following questions:

From the point of view of a meteorologist, could you compare Manuel with another Hurricane, meaning of the magnitude?

"Manuel was a common type of hurricane, its winds velocity was of 75mph maximum and was a minor hurricane and placed as category 1"

From your personal point of view what could have caused that this hurricane came with a big devastating force and made that so many states got affected for too many days, knowing that many hurricanes lose force once they hit ground?

"The impact of Manuel had the least related to its force it was more of the type of ground it hit, the ground and surface of the states it affected. It is wrong to think that only big category hurricanes can cause the big damage, of course a category 5 will be devastating but slight hurricanes or tropical storms can be deadly because of the flooding or mudflow that the rain can cause."

What created the formation of Hurricane Ingrid?

"Ingrid was formed like all tropical storms. It grew up on force/intensity because it passed by the Caribbean warm waters ending in the Gulf of Mexico."

When did the Storm season began? When does it end?

"Depends on what side, if

Pacific or Caribbean. Starts on May 15, 2013 in the Eastern Pacific and started on June 1, 2013 in the Central Pacific. Both will end on November 30, 2013. In the Atlantic, starts on June 1 and ends November 30. The highest time was September 10. This was a really light season."

This is more about the Hurricanes in Mexico but, is there any reason of why there was no Hurricanes coming towards United States coasts? Those it was to be because of the light rain we had this summer?

"There is No relation between the rain or the formation of tropical storms. The ingredients in the atmosphere were present, the temperatures were really high, the air was totally dry and there was low pressure as well. Everything needed for storms to be formed were there but it didn't happened. The big storms where not formed."

Ericka Pino explained that the scale to which the hurricanes were measured was under the Saffir-Simpson scale and that both hurricanes where category 1, which is the lowest. As said this year, the Storm Season was not as high as passed years like the big hit of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans which was a category 5.

The Season has not ended yet, there is still November to go and anything can happen. The weather changes dramatically. Everything for storms to be formed are present as stated Pino, what is only left is luck for Mother Nature. Hurricane Ingrid and Hurricane Manuel demonstrated that not only high category hurricanes can devastate an entire country making every one unite as one.

What if your textbooks cost nothing?

BY ALEX FORGUE

Co-Editor

Just like the cost of tuition, the cost of textbooks is also rising at an alarming and rapid rate. Most textbooks now cost anywhere from \$100 to \$400 for one book; and when a new edition comes out, it makes impossible to sell your book back to the bookstore or to buy a used book.

Yes, some students are lucky enough to be able to find their textbook online for a cheaper price, but even then, they still pay anywhere from \$50 to \$100 per book. The insane cost of textbooks is a contributing factor to the growing unaffordability of college.

Just like every problem, there is a solution; and the solution to costly textbooks is free ones. Many organizations such as OpenStax College provides open-source textbooks in many different subjects. Open-source text books are written by scholars who have volunteered their time to contribute to the writing of the textbooks so the quality and accuracy of the information remains unaffected.

What exactly is open-source though? Open-source means that anyone can download, edit and distribute their own copies of the product. Just like open-source software, open-source textbook have also become increasingly popular.

Instead of buying a book, a student can simply just download the latest copy of the book for

Commentary

free which saves printing cost and is more environmental than printing the books.

Open source textbooks also allows professors to create their own version of textbooks by either adding or deleting things and then distribute them for students to download which can help make class and lessons more effective and more related to the course.

Colleges are not the only institutions that are switching to open-source textbooks, but grade schools as well. The state of California has begun investing in open-source textbooks in order to cut education cost for K-12. California Governor, Jerry Brown, passed two pieces of legislation which the first one provided funding for state colleges and research institutions to develop and write open-source textbooks, and the second one provides an online library for students to download the books. California is not alone though, states like Washington, Utah, and Florida have also begun to invest in open-source textbooks.

In order to make college affordable, all colleges, including Joliet Junior college, should begin using open-source textbooks in their courses. And students should begin to organize and campaign to get their school to use open-source textbooks. Just imagine how much money you could save when you don't have to pay for books.



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Chrissy Stelter

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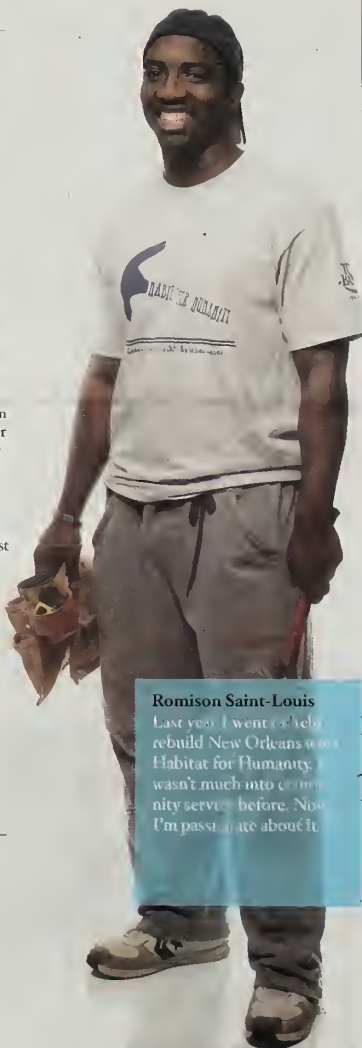
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Romison Saint-Louis

Last year, I went to help rebuild New Orleans with Habitat for Humanity. I wasn't much into community service before. Now I'm passionate about it.



Five Girls Wearing the Same Dress



Top: Priya Bond and Autumn Frykhonn make distressful poses.



Autumn Frykhonn finds Karen Hart breaking down on the floor.

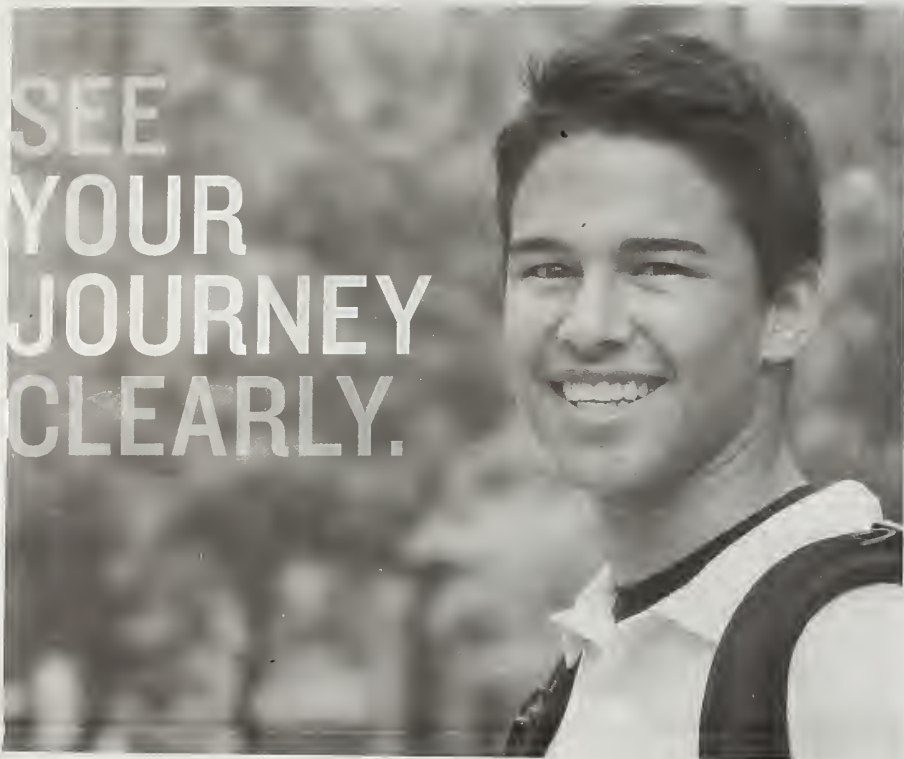


Expressful Rebbecca Logan acts out a scene

Photos by Hank Brockett of Media Services



An emotional Karen Hart trying to hold back tears



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DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

FRAUD from page 1

the members, "we can effectively say that it was a ring that we were affected by." In his ten years working at JUC, Seward said this plot was "The biggest one that I'm aware of."

The school was becoming increasingly aware of these types of incidents. "The Department of Education sent out in a Dear College letter that students were beginning to target low-cost institutions, and these students were going after [community colleges] and trying to enroll in distant online courses."

If the student is successful of committing fraud, the chance remains for continued abuse of the system. "Right now until a student is actually terminated for academic progress, they're allowed to receive financial aid," explained Seward.

Many of the students in the ring reside in the immediate Chicago area, but the specifics concerning the organization of the group or the names of those involved have not been released. Most attended at least one class, although some did not.

"They all had similarities or all had used similar information that connected them all together," Seward said of the group's organization. "That information was passed on to the Inspector General's office ... to figure out if there were any ring leaders and who exactly those ring leaders are."

Seward said the investigation is ongoing, and therefore was kept confidential. To his knowledge, charges have not been filed, and he does not speculate to the Blazer on the possible punishments for being found guilty of financial aid fraud.

Based on a report released by the Department of Education in 2013, the typical punishment for a similar fraud offense can have a sentence as much as 30 to 40 months in prison with a three to five years probationary period, as well as paying back what the amount the offender stole.

"I think that we're seeing an increase in the potential of financial aid fraud, probably in the past two years. It's something that very much on our radar, and something that we're watching diligently in order to protect the college," said Seward, commenting on the department's awareness of the rising problem.

This view was substantiated throughout the report done by the Department of Education, "the population of recipients considered as potentially participating in this fraud activity had increased 82 percent from award year 2009 (18,719 students) to award year 2012 (34,007 students)"

The DOE report "identified more than 85,000 recipients who may have participated in this type of student aid fraud ring activity and who received over \$874 million in Federal student aid from award year 2009 through award year 2012."

Speculating, Seward said that, "I think some of it is probably related to the economy overall in the past couple of years," and that because gaining Federal financial aid is relatively easy to gain, and disappear soon afterwards.

Commenting on these recent waves of fraud crime, Seward stressed that, "We have a responsibility as receiving federal dollars (and) taxpayer money ... that students are actually

using financial aid for justifiable reasons and that's to gain a degree."

"It's a fine line; we want to prevent fraud while at the same time don't want to create hoops and road blocks for students who are legitimately using financial aid. We're trying to have a detailed balancing act between the two is what we're trying to do."

Estimating that about 45 percent of current students use financial aid of some kind, Seward stressed to students that, "financial aid is there to be used for legitimate purposes to assist students ... and that we will do everything that we can to assist them in that venture."

"If they (students) are aware of someone that is potentially or has the desire to fraudulently use financial aid and that they're aware of that, to please contact our office with the information and we'll be glad to look into it further."

Assistance in apprehension of future fraud attempts is also being implemented. "This year, the Department of Education did issue a new flag which they're trying to monitor students who have a usual enrollment pattern in which they attended three different institutions in the past three years."

Although financial aid fraud is on the rise, the financial aid office and the administrators here at Joliet Junior College have made it clear that the college continues to prevent fraud while at the same time making financial aid accessible to students who need it.

BY LINDSEY CANTRELL

Photo Editor

Staying healthy on campus may be one of the more overlooked items of importance when it comes to college living—especially when there seem to be more important things like deadlines and midterms to be concerned with. But what you may lend to forget is that on campus, illnesses run rampant especially in the fall and winter seasons.

If you want to lose weight, increase energy levels, reduce stress or just generally look and feel "better," then you've come to the right place. Your best friends for staying healthy this season are going to be fruits and veggies, sleep, cold water, and more sleep. Step 1: Have A Healthy Eating Plan

With the hectic schedule college demands, it is very easy to just grab whatever is quick and yummy to eat such as a double cheeseburger and onion rings... every single day. Try to focus on a healthier diet though, sticking with fruits and vegetables or other sub sandwiches and try to make those other things, such as delicious French fries, more like rewards than an everyday necessity in your stomach.

Step 2: Get Enough Sleep

Sleep is so important in order to keep yourself healthy. You might believe sleep is sometimes overrated because there are days when you feel just fine without it; however, it does catch up to you doesn't it? Lack of sleep will only make things worse in the lines of illness and especially schoolwork. No sleep = higher risk of getting

sick due to lowering your immune system defenses. That's why after having virtually no sleep during finals week, college students look forward to the winter or summer breaks to make up for lost time on their pillows.

Step 3: Exercise Regularly

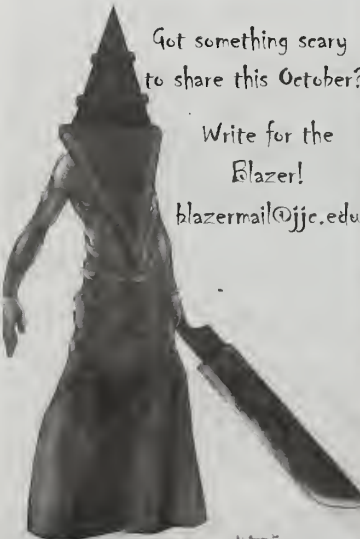
Sitting around and studying may exercise your brain cells but not necessarily the rest of your body. Even by simply taking the stairs instead of the elevator or parking further away in the parking lot, you have added a little bit of exercise in that day. This will actually help improve your studies and will make many things a lot easier for you in the long run—not to mention boost your immune system. It's understood that not everyone wants to spend half his or her day in the gym.

Also, drink plenty of water. Many students tend to forget this and simply grab a soda. Let's see... you need a quick drink when you are on the go, ah yes, a pop machine! Keep a water bottle in your bag and keep it filled. It gets the job done on thirst and not to mention helps keep your body healthy.

Even though you may not remember to do all of these things everyday, sooner or later they will become a second-nature if you stick with it at the beginning and know you're not alone. In fact, there are many other tips as well, but this is just a start to get you through the first seasons.

A main thing to always keep in mind is to just be a little more cautious about staying healthy in college in order to help you stay healthy for the rest of your life.

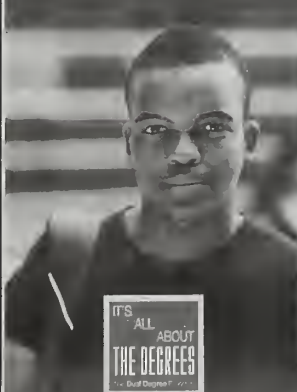
No sleep = higher risk of getting



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As summer fun ends, fall fun begins: Ten awesome things to do this fall

BY ALEX FORGUE

Co-Editor

Although summer has begun to pass like it does every year, it doesn't mean that the fun has to stop. The fall season provides many opportunities for fun activities that shouldn't be missed.

Haunted Houses

Let's cut to the chase: When fall arrives, everyone immediately thinks of Halloween and getting scared. Haunted Houses are a great way to hang out with friends and enjoy the rush that you get from fright. Haunted houses are also great way to see who your bravest friends are and who has the funniest scream. Abyss Haunted house at Dollingers Farm in Channahon is not only listed in the top-ten best haunted houses in Illinois, but also rumored to be really haunted; the haunted house appeared on A&E's My Ghost Story.

Pumpkin picking

Pumpkin picking is fun and inexpensive way to spend time with your family or your significant other. Afterwards, you can paint or carve your pumpkin and make Jack-O-Lanterns, or even bake pumpkin pie. Dollingers Farm has a wide range of pumpkins to pick from so you're bound to pick the one that is right for you.

Get Lost in a Corn Maze

One of the great things about fall is that corn stalks grow to their highest heights, and if you're someone who likes puzzles, then getting lost in a corn maze is a fun way to challenge yourselves and others.

Apple Picking

Just like pumpkin picking, apple picking can be just as fun and an alternative to those who don't like pumpkins. Apples are not only tasty on their own but can be made into two favorite

fall treats like apple-pie or apple-cider.

Play Ghost in the Graveyard

Despite society's need to for college students to "grow up", it's still fun to play outside at night with friends. And there's no better game that celebrates the Halloween season than Ghost in the Graveyard. Everyone played this game as a kid, and there's still no reason why you can't play it now so gather a few friends at night and go out and play! Bonus points to those who actually play in a graveyard or the woods.

Stuff a Scarecrow

Building your own scarecrow with friends is actually really fun. Gather some friends, some hay, and some funny clothes and begin to create the best scarecrow to display in your yard. It's like building a snowman, but in fall!

Host a Bonfire

Fall is the beginning of the cold

weather, and there's no better way to warm up than a bonfire with friends. Bonfires provide places to tell scary or funny stories while at the same time making the classic smores. So grab the firewood, the chocolate, the marshmallows, and

the graham crackers and have a fun night.

Host a movie-night

Movie nights are an entertaining way to hang-out with friends and dates. Pick the scariest Halloween movies and enjoy the thrill together. Bring plenty of snacks such as candy, popcorn, and the pumpkin pie you cooked from the pumpkin you picked.

Attend a Farmers Market

Unlike most grocery-stores, farmer markets offer low-cost organic fruits and vegetables for you to buy. Farmers markets are not only a healthy way to buy produce, but a way to support and get to know local farmers.

Makes Arts and Crafts

Making arts and crafts is a fun way to spend time with your family; fall offers many opportunities to use natural decorations such as leaves when they are colorful. Make homemade Halloween decorations or gifts to hand out to your friends.



Courtesy of crafting.squidoo.com

New game releases coming out soon

BY BRITTNEY ANDERSEN

Production Manager

Batman: Arkham Origins



Courtesy of ign.com

Batman: Arkham Origins features an expanded Gotham City and introduces an original prequel storyline set several years before the events of Batman: Arkham Asylum and Batman: Arkham City.

Release Date: Oct. 25, 2013

T for Teen: Blood, Drug Reference, Language, Mild Suggestive Themes, Violence

Genre: Action

Publisher: Warner Bros. Interactive

Developers: WB Games - Montreal, Splash Damage

Coming out on Xbox 360, Wii U, and PS3

Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds



Courtesy of ign.com

The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds is the first Zelda game made exclusively for the Nintendo 3DS. It is set in the fan-favorite world of The Legend of Zelda: A Link to the Past. A daring adventure awaits Link in Hyrule, where he can use his new ability to become a "drawing" and move along walls of dungeons. This opens up ways to explore and puzzle elements that give Link access to locations he could not otherwise reach.

Release Date: Nov. 22, 2013

MSRP: 39.99 USD

RP for Rating Pending:

Genre: Adventure

Publisher: Nintendo

Developer: Nintendo

Coming out on the 3DS

Assassins Creed 4: Black Flag



Courtesy of ign.com

It is 1715. Pirates rule the Caribbean and have established a lawless pirate republic. Among these outlaws is a fearsome young captain named Edward Kenway. His exploits earn the respect of pirate legends like Blackbeard, but draw him into an ancient war that may destroy everything the pirates have built.

Release Date: Oct. 29, 2013

M for Mature: Blood, Sexual Themes, Strong Language, Use of Alcohol, Violence

Genre: Action

Publisher: Ubisoft

Developer: Ubisoft Montreal

Coming out on PS3, Xbox 360, PC, Wii U

Walter White broke bad

BY PATRICK O'CARROLL

Staff Writer

The time has come and gone and unfortunately we all have to say goodbye to Breaking Bad. A fair warning to anyone who is not caught up with the show, there are spoilers galore in this article.

Sunday September 29th, 2013 the AMC network laid the finest television series the world has ever known to rest. From that very first Pilot that aired 5 years ago all the way up to the tear jerking finale that came too soon for all of us hardcore Breaking Bad fans. We went from the nice, soft spoken high school chemistry teacher Walter White to the ruthless, badass criminal mastermind Heisenberg. The journey has been a long one but it is one that even though no one wanted to end, went out on a high note.

From the incredible hook endings and shocking moments, to the amazing job done by both Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul, Breaking Bad has done the best job by far of keeping everyone entertained.

The curiosities were peaked once the idea of a high school chemistry teacher cooking meth was announced back in 2008. I remember being a sophomore in high school chemistry and was sold right then and there once I heard about it. The fact that the lead actor would be Hal from Malcolm in the Middle was just icing on the cake.

As the episodes kept airing I became just as addicted as the buyers of Heisenberg's Special Blue. Not that I'm advocating the use of methamphetamine, just using a simple analogy. Season one introduced us to the man who loved chemistry and hated car washes. We were slowly pushed into the inner workings of making and manufacturing meth in the greater New Mexico area. The easy part was making the meth. The hard part, dealing with all the people involved in distributing it. In season one alone we had to deal with the problems with Crazy 8. Then there was Tuco, the sadistic off-the-handle distributor.

Season two gave us the more in depth details of Jesse and Walt's relationship as well as the unbearable Jane who was dead set (pun intended) on taking down

Walter White who slowly turned into the infamous Heisenberg. This is where we also met my favorite character, Mr. Gustavo Fring. Fring was the perfect businessman who at a turn could be also be the most ruthless of drug lords. Season 3 built on the relationship with Fring and Heisenberg and also toward the end started to show us Jesse's internal struggle as he was asked to kill Gale, Walt's "part-time" lab assistant.

Season 4 was only getting better as we saw how close Hank, Walt's brother-in-law was getting close to cracking the case. It also showed us the fear that Fring was capable of instilling. The final season finally got Walter away from working for someone to starting his own "empire business" as he so eloquently put it. Finally as Jesse completely loses touch with reality and Heisenberg has run out of options to avoid Hank, the worst possible things come to light for an ending that was both amazing yet heartbreaking. So the time came for us to say goodbye and we learned to always RESPECT THE CHEMISTRY.

Do you have style? Things to consider

BY LINDSEY CANTRELL

Photo Editor

The fall 2013 New York Fashion Week was filled with trends worth trying for anyone. Glamour Magazine even has some tips and tricks for pulling them off without becoming a fashion victim.

DO invest in eye-catching outerwear.

Statement-making outerwear expresses itself in a many different ways this season (think bold furs, oversized parkas, and cool leathers). Plus, it's easy to throw on an outfit on the go and make it great.

DON'T be afraid to experiment with various colors, lengths, and textures.

DO consider the rest of your outfit when rocking these coats. Keep everything else simple.

DON'T forget a super-cute hat.

Cool caps were at just about every show, including designers Kate Spade and Tracy Reese.

DO remember this motto: When in doubt, put a beanie on it!

DON'T forget the other types of hats you can wear this season: Fedoras, floppy knits, and even baseball caps are at your disposal.

DON'T shy away from layering.

Add interest to any of your fall outfit choices by piling on a few extra pieces.

DO mix textures with your pants, skirts and tops.

DON'T go crazy with colors or patterns when layering pieces. An outfit with many components should look as streamlined as possible.

DO fall in line with military-inspired looks.

There was a strong military presence at Fall 2013 Fashion Week, which means that khaki green is on its way to becoming a staple in your wardrobe.

DON'T avoid girly versions of the utilitarian trend. How about a tailored top or slim pants?

DO add accents like lace or brocade to amp up the luxe factor. Professional and pretty.

You don't need to be walking the runway to have style.

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Film review

It's always race day in 'Rush'

ByPATRICK O'CARROLL

Staff Writer

Recently I went to the movie theatre to see Ron Howard's newest film *Rush*. With films like *Apollo 13*, *A Beautiful Mind* and *The Da Vinci Code* in Howard's repertoire of directing I knew exactly what I was in for. *Rush* is a film that puts the pedal to the floor and brakes only for a few seconds before getting right back on the throttle again.

The film focuses on the rivalry of Formula 1 drivers James Hunt and Niki Lauda during the 1976 championship season. Chris Hemsworth portrays James Hunt and he does one hell of a job in doing so. It was good to see Hemsworth's potential as an actor in a more serious role instead of his past performances in more action and horror films like *Thor*, *The Avengers*, and *Cabin in the Woods*. Niki Lauda is played by Daniel Brühl, who is most recognized as Frederik Zoller in Quentin Tarantino's *Inglorious Basterds*.

Rush starts off with the two drivers meeting for the first time in Formula 3, a lesser racing division of Formula 1, after a small skirmish on the

track between Hunt and Lauda the struggle begins. After being tired of the amateur drivers in Formula 3 Niki comes by some money and buys his way into the Ferrari racing team in Formula 1. Hunt's jealousy and urge to prove himself better than Lauda he does the same. However Hunt's cockiness doesn't win any races.

Meanwhile Lauda is holding the top position in the championship series through his clearly superior driving. Finally Hunt catches up in points and goes toe to toe with Lauda. Then a nearly fatal crash

at the Nürburgring in Germany puts Lauda's winning streak to a halt. After his recovery the two are back at it again and put on a magnificent show that will astound anyone who sees it.

The cinematography in *Rush* is the high point. The roar of the engines is something that chills to the bone. The film has amazing shots that both encompass the whole race track from an aerial perspective and then get right down to the cylinders and the inner workings of the cars engines. They take the audience through the entire internal combustion process from the spark plugs all the way to the exhaust pipes (similar to *The Fast and the Furious* but much better) for a viewing experience that is unmatched.

Between the exceptional acting by both Chris Hemsworth and David Brühl and the fantastic cinematography, *Rush* is a film that is perfect for anyone who loves the racetrack. For those who don't, the movie is still a great time as you watch the rivalry unfold between Lauda and Hunt. This film gets a five out of five stars, go out and see it you will not be disappointed.



Courtesy of thecriticallcritics.com

Book review: 'Murder of a Stacked Librarian'

By KELSIE BERTHEAUME

Staff Writer

Author Denise Swanson's "Murder of a Stacked Librarian," the latest installment into the critically acclaimed series of books, "Scumble River Mysteries." The narrative has everything an eventful Christmas story should have: time off from work, murderous intrigue, and a wedding!

When the regular librarian departs for vacation, the Scumble River school district brings in a substitute librarian, Yvonne, an attractive out-of-towner, whose good looks soon becomes the talk of the town. Having no trouble meeting new people, she soon agrees to dinner with a prospective partner.

But on her drive over, her car mysteriously careens off a bridge where she tragically plunges to her death. So again we find our long standing protagonist Skye Denison on the case again, investigating a death that was too suspicious to be accidental.

That's not all the main character faces. Her wedding is just in a week when the book starts,

yet this murder investigation might put her wedding and her honeymoon on hold. Who are the suspects and who was the one that killed Yvonne? I recommend you read the book to find out.

After taking a couple days to read this book I have to rate it five out of five stars due to the fact that it kept me entertained, and I couldn't put it down, unless absolutely necessary. The book did contain sexual references, so I would only recommend it to adult readers. However for those who love mysteries this was an engaging, entertaining and fantastic read.



Courtesy of barnsandnoble.com

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Coach Trillo celebrates 100th victory

Men's soccer heads for playoffs; team to enter as second seed



Coach Cris Trillo huddles with the team to plan their next move.

Photo courtesy of the Athletic Department

BY JOEL ROZA

Sports Editor

On September 20th, Joliet Junior College defeated Harper College, 3-0, to give Coach Cristobal Trillo his 100th career victory. Coach Trillo took some time out recently to talk about his milestone, his memories and high points, as well as his team's playoff push.

Q: On September 20th, JJC defeated Harper College for your 100th career win. What was that moment like for you?

Coach Trillo: I felt proud of the accomplishment. It happened at a home game which made it special because I was able to share the accomplishment with my team, my family and our fans.

Q: Any of those wins in particular that stands out?

Coach Trillo: The 2006 and 2007 Region IV championship finals stand out because both victories meant a Championship.

Q: You've had a host of great players throughout your career that have helped make 100 wins possible. Any of them, past or present, that stand out in your mind?

Coach Trillo: My All-Americans made a significant contribution to our program and many other players who were All-region also made our success possible. But three players that stand out in my mind who were outstanding and had the greatest impact are Ikenna Umebuani (2005), Angel Contreras (2006) and Javier Del Toro (2007).

Q: You've been an institution here at JJC in terms of its varsity soccer program. Do you feel pride in what you've helped cultivate?

Coach Trillo: I am proud to have been the men's soccer coach at Joliet Junior College since its inception, but above all, to have a great group of kids year after year who work really hard to achieve the highest goal.

Q: You're a three-time Region IV Coach of the Year, and have coached 9 All-American players,

35 all-region players, and 28 all-conference players during your time at JJC. This season, C Leatile Masula is having what many would consider a great year, currently sitting 4th in the conference in goals. Where does Masula's season stand among those other great players you've coached and where do you see his career going?

Coach Trillo: There is no doubt that Leatile is having a great season. His stats prove it. He has a natural ability and a speed that sets him apart from the average player. I believe that Leatile has not played his best soccer yet and has room to grow.

The great players that I mentioned earlier played two seasons here and had time to mature, develop and improve. They were good players when they came but they turned into great players by leading their teams into Region Championships.

Leatile has the potential to become a great leader if he works hard, continues his development and matures. He is definitely an asset to this team and I would love to help him grow as a player. He should have no problem finding a

college or university to continue playing soccer with an athletic scholarship.

Q: Any concerns going into the final two games of the season, health or depth-wise?

Coach Trillo: My only concern is to have everyone healthy for play-offs. Our standing going into play-offs puts us as the #2 seeded team. We will be playing the #3 seeded team (Madison College) here at JJC on Wednesday, October 23rd at 3 pm.

Q: How are you feeling about your team's playoff prospects?

Coach Trillo: I am optimistic about our chances. I believe that we will play Triton at the Region IV final if we win our semifinal game. We have lost twice to them by a slim margin (3-2 and 4-3). They are undefeated in our Conference and they are very good team but if we do not make any mistake due to a lack of focus, we can beat them.

Wolves Prep for Playoffs

The Wolves enter the final game of the regular-season on October 14th on the road against South Suburban College with a 7-4-1 record, good for the 2nd overall seed and a date with Madison in a Region IV Semifinal match-up on October 23rd here at JJC. Their final conference match-up, taking place October 9th at Madison College, resulted in a 3-2 win for the Wolves, who put a stop to their two-game losing skid. Bryan Chavez was on fire, scoring two goals, while Leatile Masula scored one goal, adding to his team-high total of 13. Brandon Rygh and Gustavo Moreno received one assist each. Overall this season, the Wolves are 2-0 against Madison, outscoring them in both games by a cumulative score of 10-2.

SPORTS

No quit in JJC's womens volleyball



Number 2, Imani Jarrett-Williams, prepares herself to bump the ball.

Photo by Lindsey Cantrell

By JOEL ROZA

Sports Editor

The 2013 Joliet Junior College Women's Volleyball team is nearing the end of another workhorse regular season under Head Coach Lakisha Cameron. It was a season in which Cameron recorded her 100th career win, a celebrated milestone also reached by fellow Wolves Coach Cristobal Trillo of the Joliet Junior College Men's Soccer team thus defining 2013 as an historic year for JJC athletics to say the very least.

For Cameron's team however, this season was one of massive

effort and extraordinary character. "Probably the best group of people that I've ever coached, good athletes as well as great individuals" said the fifth year Coach Cameron. The team was built up of youth with its unusually high number of freshmen players, as well as a rare lack of size which included many players taking different positions throughout the season.

Cameron found it difficult pick out any players in particular on this year's squad who she saw as outstanding because she felt that all of the players worked and "fought hard" all season long.

Looking back on Cameron's resume, one could see that she has a reputation of excellence and consistency. Prior to taking the JJC head coaching position, Cameron was an Assistant Coach at Harper College where she helped lead the team to a National Championship. Along with that, a number of her past players at JJC have earned All-American honors as well as NJCAA Player of the Week awards as shining accomplishments.

So far as this season goes, it was a strong team effort against Division Two Top Fifteen nationally ranked South

Suburban (Wednesday, Sept. 25) that stuck out to Cameron the most as one of the team's more memorable achievements. The Wolves played the "game of their lives" according to Cameron, giving South Suburban a true run for their money despite falling short in the end.

As the post-season approaches, Cameron expects much of the same - a strong work ethic predicated in giving opponents a battle whether they win or lose. It is coaches like Lakisha Cameron who make sports enjoyable for us all by creating a team belief of leaving it all on the court which

doubles as a great guide in life. As the regular-season draws to a close, the 2013 Joliet Junior College Women's Volleyball team will continue to go out and exhibit the same passion and effort that got them where they are as they search for playoff success.

SCHEDULE NOTE: The Lady Wolves have two regular-season games left before the post-season begins. Both games are NFC Conference match-ups.

Tuesday, October 15: at Madison College - 6 p.m.

Thursday, October 17: vs. Milwaukee Area Technical College - 6 p.m.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Bryan Chavez, a sophomore midfielder, led the men's soccer team to a 3-2 victory last week against N4C conference opponent Madison College. Chavez scored two goals in the contest. He currently has 9 goals and 10 assists this season. His 10 assists ranks sixth in NJCAA Division III.



Paige Cline helped guide the Lady Wolves to two wins last week against Triton College and Olivet Nazarene University JV. Against Olivet JV, Cline had 17 kills and four solo blocks. She currently has 209 kills for the season and holds a .306 attacking percentage. Her 54 solo blocks for the season are a team high.



Fine Arts hosts film fest



Producer Jay Rosenstein answers questions at JJC's film festival after the screening of his movie "Amaseong."

Photo by Travis Olson

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-editor

Over the two days from Oct. 17-18, three films were screened at the Black Box Theater featuring discussions with guest speakers, Jay Rosenstein and Ricardo "Cobe" Williams, both of whom were involved in the production of two of the films shown.

"Film relates to everything we do," said faculty member and organizer Giselle Atterberry the department's relation with film, "we teach speech, teach interior design, visual arts theater and if all is reflected into what goes into film making."

Rosenstein presented his documentary, "Amaseong Chorus: Singing Out," on Friday, Oct. 18, and afterwards jokingly remarked "It was fun to watch, and I thought, 'wow I used to be able to shoot really well.'"

The film first aired on PBS in 2004, and tracks the formation and success of the well-known lesbian/feminist chorus at the University

of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana. Founded by Christina Boerger 1990, the Amaseong Chorus is made up entirely by lesbian and/or feminist participants.

Under Boerger's direction as a classically trained musician, the chorus gained national notoriety after their 1997 album release won the group a GLAMA (Gay and Lesbian American Music Award) for Best Choral Group award.

Professor Tammy Perkins introduced Saturday's opening film, "Dragon: the Bruce Lee Story," and highlighted the films intricate staging, and woven aspects of comedy, romance and action.

The festival ended with "The Interrupters," a documentary about preventing gang violence in Chicago. Ricardo "Cobe" Williams, an actual violence interrupter in the film responded to numerous questions and comments in a lively discussion after the film.

"To hear him (Cobe) speak, to have his perspective is such an immediate way was incredibly moving," said Atterberry, "So to have people

intimately connected with the film was tremendously special."

"He is truly an inspirational person and every day he put himself on the line," said Atterberry, "Every day they (the interrupters) go to work, knowing something could happen... they are truly amazing people."

With both students and community members in attendance, Atterberry was pleased with the overall turnout, "Especially for those not intimately involved with the campus were given the opportunity to see what else the Fine Arts Department had to offer, and at the very least, understand that as taxpayers, they are supporting a very vital and engaged department."

Jax Beckendorf, president of JJC's GLOW (Gay Lesbian Or Whatever) was present for the screening of "Amaseong." won a free CD of the chorus for fulfilling the requirements of "Singing Out" farthest to the left, and offered her thoughts on the impact of the event on her.

Students with disabilities speak out

BY TINDSEY CANTRELL

Staff writer

With October being Disability Awareness Month, JJC hosted a series of heartfelt presentations by students who cope with various physical and cognitive disabilities on Oct. 22. The event was held on the Center Bridge and featured three different sessions arranged at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11 a.m. with various speakers at each.

Counselor Lori Smith-Okon, a licensed clinical social worker and a member of Student Accommodations and Resources (STAR) on campus, announced each speaker during the 9:30 presentations.

Veronica Pollard started the presentation off by greeting the audience and displaying photos of her and her friends. She said, "I'm just like you guys, but I can't hear well," when describing her hearing disorder. She then showed "her boys" as she called them when she accompanied a football team in a photo on screen.

Nothing stopped her from achieving her goals with a degree in Sports Management. Speaking on behalf of a relative with the same problem she said that, "When I hear from others 'I'm tired of people feeling sorry for me,' I understand that."

Ending her speech, she described her thoughts on the word disability saying, "It's a negative word," and relating it to just being no different than some people wearing glasses and having different eye colors.

Next on stage was Kelsi Berthiaume. Even with her diagnoses of being visually impaired and legally blind in her right eye, Berthiaume lives with a love of all things graphic. She even won a prestigious award in publishing for some of her efforts and says she feels her disability has even helped her

See Film page 4

See Disability page 4

EDITORIAL

Minimum wage needs to be raised

Right now, America has the highest wealth-inequality in the world. Despite corporate profits and worker-productivity being the highest it has ever been, the average wage of the average worker has not increased, only the pay of CEOs have increased.

Back in the late 1990s, a journalist named Barbara Flinchew went undercover working minimum-wage jobs to see if it was possible to live on the minimum wage. She found that the minimum wage was impossible to live on despite working full-time at over 40 hours a week. She wrote an entire book on the subject called "Nickel and Dime: On (Not) Getting By in America"

Today, the situation is no different. Even if you worked at minimum wage full-time at 40-hours a week, you could not afford a two-bedroom apartment in any state.

In most states, one would have to work anywhere from 60-70 hours a week just to be able to afford a two-bedroom apartment with a minimum wage income.

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are over 3.6 million Americans who make minimum wage or less with an average salary of \$15,000 dollars or less.

Many argue that this is not important because the majority of people on minimum wage are teenagers, but in fact over 50 percent of minimum wage earners are over 25.

However, many people believe that increasing the minimum wage would decrease jobs, but the truth is that it won't. The people who stimulate the economy is not those in the top 1 percent who make hundreds of billions of dollars, it is average people.

Most people spend most of the income to live, while those in the top 1 percent either keep their money in foreign bank accounts or in the stock market. When people have more money to spend, employees will create new jobs.

In 1968 the minimum wage was \$1.60 per hour, which seems low, but adjusted to inflation

today, it would be equivalent to \$10.74 per hour which means that the federal minimum wage today of \$7.25 per hour is worth over 32 percent less than in 1968.

While minimum wage remained unadjusted to the rate of inflation, worker productivity has grown past it exponentially. It is often said that "labor creates all wealth." At the moment, worker productivity and the amount that workers are producing is the highest it has ever been.

But this has meant that workers are working longer and harder, which explains record corporate profits, but does not correlate to workers seeing a pay increase for their hard work. For example, if the minimum wage has increased as the average amount of worker productivity, it would be at \$21.72/hour according to a study by the Center for Economic and Policy Research.

Big corporations know that the minimum wage is not enough to get by. For example, Wal-

Mart pays their workers such a low wage that the taxpayers are forced to subsidize Wal-Mart's low wages with welfare and food stamps while at the same time the six Wal-Mart CEOs make more money than the bottom 50 percent of Americans combined.

Wal-Mart cost taxpayers over \$400,000 dollars each year per every Wal-Mart store. It is obvious that the Wal-Mart should be paying their workers a living wage so the taxpayers don't have to.

If we want to get back to an economy where welfare is not needed and to lift people out of poverty, we are going to need to fight to raise the minimum wage; and that that fight is growing. In fact 71 percent of Americans support raising the minimum wage according to a 2013 Gallup poll.

Thanks to movements like Occupy Wall Street, and Fight For 15, politicians and Americans are starting to see that more income equality is essential to get back to a healthy and growing economy.

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or of the administration of Joliet Junior College.

What Monsanto does to your food

BY ALEX FORCH
Co-editor

Right now as we speak, your life, my life, and the life of the entire planet is in jeopardy. Big agricultural companies are the ones to blame; and the worst of them is named Monsanto.

When it comes to criticizing large companies, Monsanto makes the top of my list

Before diving into the ever growing campaign against Monsanto, there is a few basic facts that one must educate themselves with.

Monsanto makes most of its money from Genetically Modified Organisms which is often abbreviated "GMOs."

Genetically modified organisms are plants and even animals that are created from modified DNA structures within that organism or as I like to call them "Franken-crops." These Franken-crops are designed to be infertile after grown and have pesticides built into them creating a major problem for life on Earth.

One of the first issues that are present with GMOs is bees. Bees pollinate 70% of the 100% of the crops that feed most of the world's population. Bee populations world-wide are disappearing due to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) is when a hive or a colony of bees dies off and this is happening on a global scale and has happened more rapidly over the last few years.

Although the exact cause

of CCD is unknown, there is irrefutable proof that GMOs and big companies like Monsanto are a predominant factor.

GMOs are not only modified to be infertile to prevent farmers from replanting them which causes bees to become malnourished and deprived of the basic nutrients and substances that their colony needs to survive, but also these GMOs have pesticides built in them that either kills the bee immediately or weakens a bee's immune system causing them to become sick and then die off.

Monsanto is not only a maker of modified organisms, but the largest producers of pesticides as well. While it may seem strange that the company that is engineering your food is also producing poisons as well, consider one of the most historically well-known pesticides "Agent Orange."

Agent Orange type pesticides were created by Monsanto were used as chemical weapons during the Vietnam War, and have been attributed to numerous instances of cancer in returning veterans, and subsequent birth defects in their children.

During the Vietnam war, the US military began "Operation Ranch Hand" which was a military objective to not only cause deforestation to prevent guerrilla cover, but to cause famine as well. The operation killed nearly 400,000 people as well as caused over 500,000 birth defects which today the Red Cross of Vietnam has estimated that over 1 million people have

been killed or disabled by Agent Orange.

The same chemical warfare used on the people of Vietnam is the same chemical warfare that is being used today against insects and bacteria including the beneficial ones that we depend on.

During the 1980s, China's use and deregulation of pesticides on plants exploded, and the effect of that today leaves an absence of honey bees to pollinate the crops.

Instead, farmers in China must now hire humans to do the job that bees once naturally did, and the efficiency of human pollinators are much lower than if it was performed by natural pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

Despite an affirmative claim by the health industry of GMOs on human life, studies have already proven that GMOs have negative effects on health in other species.

There is one animal that has very similar DNA and biological structures to human beings which are rats. Because rats share such similar biological structure with humans, they are often used and are effective for any study on how certain things affect us biologically or neurologically.

In a study conducted by Dr. Irina Ermakova, a leading scientist at the Institute of Higher Nervous Activity and Neurophysiology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, mother rats were fed GMO soy beans resulting in a 56% loss of their overall offspring. Can the increase of mortality of offspring

in rats after exposure explain the increase in infant mortality and birth defects in the United States?

Beyond the apparent health effects of GMOs, there are also negative economic effects of GMOs as well. Normally, seeds can be replanted, but as I stated earlier, Monsanto seeds are designed to be infertile which forces the farmer to repurchase seeds every year. If a farmer is caught saving the seeds, they are sued.

In fact, this occurrence of Monsanto suing farmers for everything that they have and economically devastating them is so common that Monsanto actually puts forth the question "Why Does Monsanto Sue Farmers Who Save Seeds?" on their website.

This raises the larger concern that about our food industry and the growing privatization of our food supply. Recently, Monsanto was able to lobby for even more protection from regulation and gained more power in our government which only makes it harder to label GMOs.

Not only does this question the growing privatization of our food supply, but the privatization of life. No longer are corporations getting away with profiting off of the services that sustain life, now they are actually profiting from patents of life.

Now we face a bigger battle not only for the sustainability of life, but the freedom of life as well. Every action against Monsanto is an important one.

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, email, or by dropping them off at the Blazer office at F-1009.

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Will County's first Latino judge inspires students

BY ALEX FORGUE

Co-editor

Ever since he was 5 years old, Judge David Garcia wanted to become an attorney, but he became more than that; he became Will County's first-ever Latino judge, despite not attending law school until well into his mid-30s.

To highlight Judge Garcia's achievements, Brandon Jackson, the Multicultural Retention Specialist at the college, invited Garcia to share his experiences for the final event in JJC's Minority Male Empowerment week at the school.

Jackson said that the week which was filled with numerous events was "designed to showcase that minority-males are doing great things and to inspire others to do the same."

Introducing Judge Garcia was Dr. Yolanda Isaacs, the Vice President of Student Development, who described Garcia as a "hard-working individual," who is "actively involved in community service and social justice."

Judge Garcia opened with his speech by saying that his "journey has been very long."

Although Garcia knew that he wanted to become an attorney since he was a young child, he didn't go to law school until the age of 35, attending school part-time at night while working full-time as a production manager at a factory.

After 4 years of law school, he graduated and passed the bar exam certifying him to practice law. Despite making more money, he quit his job as production manager, and took up being a lawyer.

Garcia explained that, "It doesn't matter if you're making

less money as long as you love what you're doing; so many people get stuck in careers that they don't enjoy doing just because they make more money. You should do what you love first and the success will follow."

Garcia was raised by a single mother in Chicago's Humboldt Park neighborhood. He shared the difficulties of growing up in Chicago where Garcia watched as most of his friends "end up either in jail or dead."

Becoming a lawyer was not the only source of motivation for Garcia though, but also his

mother's strong discipline that today he "is thankful for her disciplining him."

After law school, Garcia remembered his past in Chicago, and wanted to go somewhere he felt that people needed his help which is why he moved to Joliet and founded the Latino Bar Association of Will County.

"There were people of color in Joliet that needed representation by other people of color," he explained. "I joined all the organizations because I wanted to give back. I grew up in Chicago where there was a lot of violence and I survived so I wanted to give back."

After being a lawyer since 1995, Garcia first applied to be a judge in 2008; he was turned down. Garcia used this experience to demonstrate to students that there will be times where they don't succeed the first time around and that they should give up.

"If you don't apply or keep trying, it's never going to happen." After 5 years of applying, Garcia became the first Latino judge in Will County. He explained

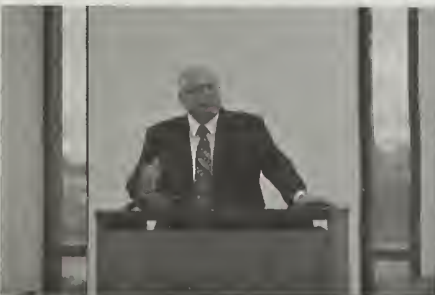
that he took the time that he was denied and used to better himself so each time he applied he would be more qualified.

Garcia understood that being a minority created barriers for him to achieve his goals. "People look at people of color like me, and they don't expect us to achieve things; they underestimate." He laments that, "We allow people outside our community to make decisions about us, and we can't allow them to do that."

For Garcia, his journey was a long one, but he had a goal of becoming an attorney, and he achieved it. Highlighting the amount of time it took him to achieve his goal, he explained that "Time is going to pass no matter what you do; it's how you use that time."

Garcia encouraged students to focus on their goals and achieve them. And even for Garcia, one's success and potential may not reveal itself right away. "It was never my intention to become a judge; you never know where you're going to end up."

But Garcia noted that no matter what one's goal is, "you should never give up, you should figure out what you want to do and then go for it."



Judge Garcia lectures

Photos by Travis Olson

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Aurora University

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

JJC has increased its efforts throughout the semester to assist students wishing to transfer to a four-year college through informational sessions, transfer representatives, and transfer fairs.

In the latest informational session held Oct. 22, transfer specialist Cheryl Turrisse was frank in describing her efforts to assist students. "We don't want students to waste their time, their money or their effort," she said bluntly.

In the past two years alone, the number of transfer fairs has increased from one per semester, to four. Last year alone over 300 cumulative visits from representatives from transfer colleges took place.

"Most students think that you have two years to decide then think about transferring, but that's really not the case," explained Turrisse. Instead, she advised students to narrow down a field in which to major in as early as possible.

"Students should at least start narrowing their focus as they go, keep meeting with counselors, and spend time at the Career Service Center." The center offers workshops aimed at helping undecided students determine their major.

This concept will be

expanded in the spring with a major exploration transfer fair, where students can learn about the various fields they can major in, and hear from college representatives as well.

"Transferring can be complicated... there's so many different variables that it's important to be able to access information that makes the process as easy as possible."

One overlooked step in which JJC can assist students is determining whether the transfer college requires a foreign language or not.

Student aid from the state has been shrinking each year, said Turrisse, thus the cut-off date has become earlier and earlier. Also being limited is how many credits they will pay for, and how long someone is eligible to receive aid before getting cut off.

Upcoming events will include an Adult Degree Completion Fair on Nov. 6, and is designed for students 24 years and older. The final transfer fair will take place Dec. 4 and will focus on fields dedicated to science, technology, engineering and math.

"Be an active and early participant in the transfer process," Turrisse stressed, "really start delving into the information and understand how changing your major affects the courses you will have to take," so that you don't wind up with unnecessary credits.

JJC transfer essentials

Step by step . . .

1. Decide upon a major: Access Career planning resources and consider enrolling in a GISD110 Career and Lifestyle Planning course.
2. Access JJC Transfer Resources: Explore and access both campus based and online transfer resources.
3. Select a Transfer School: Attend College Fairs, visit campuses and explore college websites.
4. Form a plan and continue to meet with counselors: Visit a Counselor or Academic Advisor early at least once a semester.
5. Apply to schools: Visit the transfer school's website for application information and deadlines. Apply at least one year in advance.
6. Secure financial aid: Apply for financial aid and scholarships early.
7. Complete all required coursework: Obtain a degree audit to be sure you are on track to graduate on time.
8. Petition to graduate: Submit your application to graduate before the deadlines.
9. Transfer: Contact JJC and relate your story!

Courtesy of Cheryl Turrisse, JJC Transfer Specialist

Fair attracts trade specialists

By IRWIN OLSON

Staff writer

From CNC machinists to welders, the industrial side of the work force is in need of workers from all over the field. JIC held a Trades Fair on Oct. 23rd, held of the numerous employers, the following is an example of the variety of available jobs.

Bimba Manufacturing is a provider of industrial leading hydraulic, electric, and pneumatic implements. They are looking for CNC machinists and engineers. Representing Bimba was Stephanie Morris.

"We have solutions to most industries, we cater to the medical field, food industry, entertainment, and windows making. We even made an electric powered dog, named the Demon Dog to be used in a haunted house. It's extremely realistic." Bimba is also going green in a for the environment. "We are now using recycled materials," said Morris.

Industrial machine repair mechanics and industrial electricians are wanted by Caterpillar in Aurora. Industrial electricians are needed for installing and repairing electrical and electronic circuit used on Machine tools and plant equipment. Industrial machine repair mechanics are needed for trouble shooting or repairing complex many sorts of machine tools that do milling, drilling, and grinding functions to build iron components. For both positions, there is a minimum of 3 years experience or completion of a field related college or technical school program. Workers will need to read blueprints and schematics to trouble shoot devices and communicate with customers and stakeholders. "We have new programs that are expanding what we can do in the industry, our technology is advancing, and always growing," said Stephanie Shank



Stephanie Shank of Caterpillar

Photo by Irwin Olson

of Caterpillar. "We need our employers to learn the changing environments as they change quickly."

Chicago Tube and Iron is looking for laser operators and fabricators. "We are always looking ahead, and forward advancing," said Dana Conway of Chicago Tube and Iron. As of Oct. 9th, in Romeoville, the company is looking for operators that have at least five years experience of operating Pine radial benders and have excellent math abilities along with blueprint reading abilities, according to their website.

To any marine mechanics, operators, terminal operators, and deckhands, Canal Barge Company has positions open. "Our barges carry three million pounds in each barge, and can carry grain, coke, and many other materials so our company can adapt to the changing seasons and changing needs," said Brianna and Amanda of CBC. Marine mechanics will need 5 years of experience, and a GED, terminal operators must be available to work three to twelve hour shifts and one to six hours shifts and a high school diploma or GED. Deckhands will need to work a twenty-one day on, twenty-one day off schedule and have a high school diploma or GED. some

jobs are paid hourly, and some by day. The company operates within the Inland Marine Highway, a river way connecting Minneapolis St. Paul to Chicago, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Tulsa, and several Southern cities. A subsidiary of Canal Barge is Illinois Marine Towing, a fast growing company in Lemont, IL.

ComEd is currently looking for First Line Supervisors (FLS) for construction and maintenance teams, temporary meter readers, and temporary customer service representatives.

"Temporary meter readers have to stand or walk for long periods of time, have a GED, and pass an EEL pre-employment test prior to being considered," said Dawn Berggren of ComEd.

"Temporary service representatives must have computer and communication skills, work rotating shifts, and complete a few exams. Supervisors for construction and maintenance teams must have five years' experience in overhead and underground electrical systems, strong leadership in managing crews, and do on call duty service," she added.

To apply for available positions, you can visit ComEd's website: careers.exeloncorp.com.

MKD Electric has apprenticeship and employment available for industrial techs. MKD is non-union. "The apprenticeship starts in the beginning of February, and teaches safety and skills. Classes are four years of night classes, one night a week," said Shani Thomas of MKD. Employees will have need to have the willingness to learn, have technical aptitude, reading and math skills, have reliable transportation, physically fit, and have transcripts, references, and a resume.

Interested candidates should contact Jennifer Lichthardt at jlichthardt@mkdelectric.com.

Disability from page 1

learn more about computers and the field because of all the extra training.

She relates by saying, "We may be different, but we are people. Everyone needs friends." After her speech, a simulation of her disability was displayed by a handed out sheet of paper showing just the kind of view Bertheaume would see in trying to read something on paper or on screen. All of the words were jumbled up and barely visible while Smith-Okon attempted to read what she thought it was about. It really opened up the eyes of the audience members in seeing what Bertheaume and those like her have to go through everyday especially during school with reading homework.

Joe Kelly came next in explaining Asperger syndrome to the audience. It is a form of Autism and some are mildly impacted with this and some are more severe cases. Kelly listed some advantages he thinks came from him being this way, including more creativity and extreme focus, but his disadvantages include a fear of public speaking.

He also talked a little about having anxiety and how he sometimes stresses out about things and stays up most of the night worrying about them. However, he jokes about how that helps him get homework assignments completed ahead of time to avoid the extreme worrying about the deadline.

With that fact, he says, "I'm different, not less." The way he described his day-to-day life was by clarifying how it is normal to feel awkward walking into a new room, not sure what to say and having people stare. That's just how Kelly would feel all the time.

The next student on stage was Britani Edwards who explains that she was born without any complications, but then became deaf at the age of two. She doesn't know how or why it happened, but gives words of

encouragement through a sign language translator.

"I'm proud to be deaf and not ashamed because of my disability. It's not a bad thing—you are who you are, embrace it no matter what."

The concluding speaker was Sam Knight who has Cerebral Palsy, a mobility disorder that makes it much harder for him to get around was explained by Knight, with the Will/Grundy Center for Independent Living.

"We're not different; it just forces you to do things differently." Knight says the only difference he sees is that he has to walk slower throughout the day.

He leaves home earlier to give himself more time to walk where he needs to go. The last topic he discussed was fundraising and opportunities given to those with disabilities living at the Will/Grundy Center and how to get involved by visiting or talking with him about it.

The last activity in the session included a simulation of having a mobility disorder in that students were invited on stage to put on gear that limited their means of moving their arms and legs. Students were asked to try and move around on play putty-cake with the person next to them.

One student said the activity, "Hurt physically and emotionally." Another commented that, "Wow, that was exhausting...I was getting the hang of it, but I can't imagine to have to work on that everyday."

"The purpose of Disability Awareness Day is to help students with disabilities find their voice and speak out about the issues that matter to them. It is an opportunity for growth and development for the students that spoke, and for those students with and without disabilities that worked behind the scenes." Smith-Okon said, "I am incredibly proud of all the individuals that helped make this day a success, especially those that courageously spoke about a very important issue in their lives."

Film from page 1

that I really documented it in a way that was true to their experience." Rosenstein teaches at the College of Media at UIUC, and has also written, directed, and produced a number of films, winning him recognition and awards from fans and critics of the Independent film circle. The 2011 film "The Lord is not on Trial here Today," won him two Peabody and two Emmy awards for best historical documentary and best writing.

Perhaps his most known work is, "In Whose Honor," a 1997 film about the use of Native American likenesses in sport mascots, University of Illinois' "The Chief." Rosenstein spoke in length about the subject of educational institutions, and the role of sports and mascots.

"I am slowly working on a project that I've wanted to do for a long time that will be very critical of UIUC, and the role of sports within it," he said in reference to a possible follow up to "In Whose Honor."

"So far every film features a lead character that is female, and they all have the same similarities: An individual person fighting against the greater society," said Rosenstein,

"Only the subject they are fighting seems to change."

Each of the festival's films highlighted this struggle against a prevailing society in some way; whether it is "Dragons" message against stereotyping, "Amosong," and their struggle for lifestyle acceptance in rural Ill., or working to ending the violence that prevails in inner-city Chicago in "The Interrupters."

It remains to be seen in certainty whether the department would host another festival. When asked if she would attend the film festival next year, Beckendorf responded, "Most definitely."

Hopeful that the fest generated enough interest for a repeat, fine arts department Chair Daniela Broderick suggested that she would very much like to see it continue," according to Altherberry.

"We had excellent films and the immediate reactions were very positive," she continued. "We're already mulling over other titles, and are very hopeful to see it continue (because) I think there are more (film-buffs) out there."

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News briefs

Congressmen tackles federal budget at JJC

U.S. Congressman Bill Foster D-Ill. is giving students and residents of the 11th district, the opportunity to voice their thoughts and opinions on how best to fund federal budget. Participants will be able to interact with the congressman in groups of five to ten, and put forth their own proposal and concerns over the federal deficit.

The event will take place Nov. 4 from 9-11 A.M. in the Health Professions Center Auditorium (U-1024). The event is free and open to all those who wish to attend. Space is limited, so those interested are encouraged to contact Foster's Joliet District Office: (815) 280-5876, or Amy Stevens of Communications &

External Relations at (815) 280 2659 or Astevens@jjc.edu.

Tempering one's anger

Anger management will be the topic at hand on Nov. 4 at 1 P.M. during JJC's latest Life Skills Session. Tips on how to control one's anger and on-campus resources will be discussed. The presentation is free, but space will be limited. Those interested can contact the Office of the Dean of Students to sign up or call (815) 280 2759 to reserve a spot.

Mental magic on the Center Bridge

Chris Carter, "The Mentalist", will give a presentation showing his innate skill of reading people's minds and making predictions so

accurate, they defy logic. Having performed at over 2500 colleges, he is known nation-wide as "The Mentalist," and gives a show that is informative, thought provoking and most of all entertaining. Carter will present on Nov. 5 at 12:15 P.M. on the Center Bridge.

Veterans honored

Join former and current servicemen and women in a Veteran's Day ceremony in recognition for their services at home and abroad. The service will be held Nov. 8 at 12 P.M. on the Center Bridge. Come honor those who have sacrificed to make our freedom possible.

Victorious at culinary competition

JJC Culinary Arts student Johanna Wyss took 1st place

in the Pastry Chicago Haunted Cupcake Competition, a highly competitive culinary competition that included some of the most talented pastry artists in the greater Chicago area.

Halloween Club Showcase

Be a part of the festivities as JJC clubs will jam pack the Center Bridge for Halloween fun. Presentations will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The main event will be a costume contest that will take place at noon and AWE-N will give tarot card readings throughout the event.

Other Clubs featured:
The Natural Sciences Club will host a science-themed Jeopardy.
Time: 11 a.m. through 12 p.m.

Latinos Unidos will be offering free face painting and dance lessons in preparation for their "Day of the Dead Dance," on Nov. 8.
Time: 12-1 p.m.

Comedy Club will wage an all-out zombie themed Nerf war in J-building's lower level.
Time: 12:30-1:30 p.m.

The Wolf Pack Productions Video Club is giving sound effects and video equipment demonstrations.
Time: 1-2 p.m.

Catholic Campus Ministry will test students' Biblical knowledge in a trivia game.
Time: 1-2 p.m.

Police Blotter

Bolingbrook man arrested

Aaron M. Dent of Bolingbrook, was arrested by JJC Campus Police on Sept. 30 for having an outstanding warrant for failing to appear at a Will County scheduled criminal court date, according to Campus Police.

Citation issued for parking lot accident

New Lenox resident Andrew J. Becker was issued a citation for failure to give information after police said he struck a vehicle in East Lot 2.

According to police, a court date has been set for Nov. 14.

Joliet man arrested for violating order of protection

Campus police arrested Brandon M. Montgomery of Joliet on Oct. 9 for violating an Order of Protection that a female student had against him after he was seen on campus. Montgomery was also issued a Notice of Trespass, police said.



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Film review

Not the best prom night for Carrie White

BY PATRICK O'CARROLL

Staff writer

When Hollywood has run out of ideas they turn to older films to try and revamp them. Unfortunately its latest victim was the 1976 horror film "Carrie."

It originally starred Sissy Spacek as Carrie White, Piper Laurie as Margaret White, and William Katt as Tommy Ross. This latest version has put Chloe Grace Moretz as Carrie, Julianne Moore as Margaret and Ansel Elgort as Tommy.

After recent horror remakes such as, "Evil Dead," "A Nightmare on Elm Street" and "Fright Night," I had low expectations for this latest creation. With the exception of Julianne Moore's engaging performance, the acting was not spectacular. The movie is a near shot-by-shot and scene-by-scene duplicate of the late 70s classic. Much of the dialogue is very similar as well.

This makes the film different than other horror remakes. On



Courtesy of moviestodiefor.com

the other hand, "Carrie," tries too hard to stick with the original plot and stays with the same theme exploring new use of special effects.

This film was predictable. For those who have not seen the original "Carrie" or this new remake of it, I would not recommend wasting your time with the latest version.

The film starts out a little differently than the original by showing the birth of Carrie. We fast forward to high school and the shower scene where Carrie is then humiliated in the girl's locker room. The entire locker room is then punished.

Chris, the girl who initiated Carrie's ridicule, played by Portia Doubleday, feels as if she did nothing bad enough to be punished and vows revenge on Carrie White for her punishment.

Carrie's home life is no source of refuge. Her mother (Moore) is a strictly devout Catholic who blames Carrie's ordeal on the fact that Carrie had sex regardless of the truth. Carrie's mother then locks her in her closet to pray for forgiveness.

While Carrie is back at school she starts noticing that she can manipulate objects with her mind. So she hits the books looking for answers and starts researching telekinesis.

When prom night arrives and Carrie shows up with her date Tommy Ross (Elgort). Still upset over her punishment, Chris and her boyfriend Billy Nolan (Alex Russell) hatch a plan to humiliate Carrie.

This movie gets one star out of five from me. If you still want to see it just watch the original.

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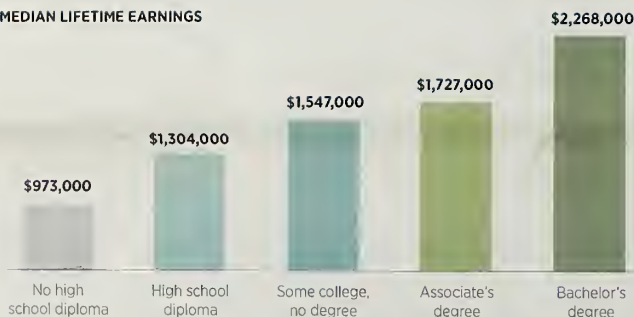


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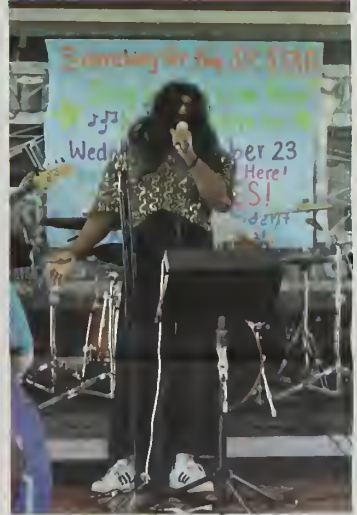
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JJC students show their talent at the center bridge Karaoke contest



Brian Mayer gets into it while singing for the crowd.

Photo by Lindsay Cantrell



Brandon Williams entertained the audience by dressing as Whitney Houston and singing her hit "I Will Always Love You."

Photo by Lindsay Cantrell



One of the crowd favorites was Shinequa giving a great performance to the song "Rolling in the Deep."

Photo by Lindsay Cantrell



From left : Claudia Rojas (1st place, \$100), Jimmy Chapman (3rd place, \$50) and Breanna Wennberg (2nd place, \$75) pose for the camera.

Photo by Pam Dilday

Film review

Stunning visuals, good performances make new 'space odyssey' *Gravity* a hit

BY KRISTI BEDOLLA

Staff writer

Space exploration has always intrigued mankind from Sputnik, the first satellite in space to unmanned vehicles roaming other planets gathering data to better understand what else is out there besides us humans.

In Alfonso Cuarón's new film *Gravity* we see just how big and scary space is. The audience experiences of men and women who risk their lives to make the trip into the unknown. With stars Sandra Bullock and George Clooney gracing the screen, this intense drama packs big talent to an even bigger setting.

For a film with few onscreen cast members, the characters need to be larger than life. Sandra Bullock is Dr.

Ryan Stone, a medical engineer on her first mission into space. Her superior, veteran astronaut Matt Kowalski is commanding his last trip into space before retiring.

The task of installing new equipment for medical research starts off smoothly. News of the Russian satellite explosions

causes the installation to pause and our astronauts to take cover. Unexpectedly, the communication between Houston and our astronauts is severed. The debris of the satellites coming at the shuttle catch the astronauts off guard and Dr. Stone is knocked out of reach from Kowalski, spinning head over feet in free

space.

The oxygen levels in Dr. Stone are decreasing by every breath and the hit has thrown her off into the unknown. Kowalski arrives to rescue Stone and all seems well until another tide of debris comes speeding towards them. Kowalski has little fuel left in his space jet pack and the second

round of debris separate him from Stone, leaving Stone with the task of getting back down to earth alone. With no help from below, she must rely on her training and every ounce of optimism to accomplish this incredible feat.

It is obvious that you cannot send a film crew and actors into space and film a feature length movie but this film does a great job in creating the outer space setting. The action brings you right in, as if you were the one spinning in outer space.

Sandra Bullock does a phenomenal acting job and the persistence she portrays in her character of Dr. Stone makes you feel like you can accomplish those measly goals you have.

For the most part the film follows the logical side of aeronautics but there are few impossible moments. That's what makes a movie, a movie. Being able to travel into space while your feet are still planted on the ground.

Four Stars

Courtesy of imvowards.com



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Deep Cuts: 1983's 'Born Again' by Black Sabbath

BY JOEL ROZA

Staff writer

Today's music distribution is quick cut and to the point. Our generation lives off of what iTunes, Spotify, and Pandora feed the people. The art of buying an album or CD isn't all that has left us; so too has the art of listening to an entire album, the manic devotion to an artist, and the once-endless lust for 'deep cuts.' Radio lives off of popular music, but music fans live off of good music. There's a difference.

Black Sabbath. The mere name evokes memories of iconic tunes such as Iron Man, "War Pigs," "Paranoid," "Children of the Grave" and "N.I.B." The vision of the band is of the four originals band members—vocalist Ozzy Osbourne, guitarist Tony Iommi, bassist Geezer Butler and drummer Bill Ward. Four Brummies from working-class Birmingham, England who released their iconic self-titled debut in 1970 and set the course for their music career and all of heavy metal.

Sabbath's history is a long and winding road littered with a rotating cast of band members, with the lone constant being guitarist, Tony Iommi. The names that have passed through Sabbath read like a who's who

of rock royalty. Of all the entries in Sabbath's post-Ozzy catalogue, no record proves more controversial and divisive than 1983's *Born Again*.

After the departure of singer Ronnie James Dio and drummer Vinny Appice in 1982, after two massively successful releases (1980's *Heaven & Hell* and 1981's *Mob Rules*), Sabbath brought back founding drummer Bill Ward and searched for a new singer.

After a night of drunken debauchery with Sabs, Iommi and Butler, in an English pub in Oxford, then-former Deep Purple front man Ian Gillan awoke the following morning to discover that he had agreed to join Black Sabbath. Though the press would have a field day with this strange union, going as far as to dub it "Deep Sabbath", the new incarnation of Black Sabbath retreated to Richard Branson's (of Virgin Group-fame) mansion to record at The Manor studio.

When *Born Again* was released on August 7, 1983, the initial reviews were mixed. It just didn't sound right to people—Ian Gillan singing for Black Sabbath. The cover, a depiction of a demon baby with the kind of color combination

you typically only see with the assistance of hallucinogenics, was rejected as nonsense even by Ian Gillan himself.

Gillan said "I took a look at the cover and puked!" The production is brash and raw, far from the refined nastiness of any of their previous work. The songs themselves, lyrically, are more in line with what Gillan did with Deep Purple—storytelling.

The album deals with many story-worthy instances of drunken mayhem at The Manor ("Trashed"), disturbing the local

church with their loud music ("Disturbing the Priest"), as well as sadder moments such as "Keep It Warm", which was Gillan's ode to his wife. Other tracks were "Zero The Hero" which has long been claimed as the inspiration to Guns 'N' Roses' hit "Paradise City", "Digital Butch" and "Hot Line".

For years, *Born Again* was locked away and forgotten. Gillan left to re-form the MKII lineup of Deep Purple after the *Born Again* Tour ended in late 1983. Sabbath was left adrift for three years as

they searched high and low for direction. The album endured thanks to a cult following and was recently re-mastered and re-issued in a deluxe edition format.

The deluxe edition includes an unreleased track ("The Fallen") and a live show, featuring Gillan singing his original tracks with Sabbath as well as the classic Ozzy and Dio material. The tour itself inspired the mockumentary "This is Spinal Tap", which features many homages to Sabbath's laughably produced Stonehenge-themed stage set-up, and roadies dressed as monks.

It was a peculiar year for Sabbath but the album has stood the test of time. You'll never hear these tracks live or hear mainstream radio mention it. Anytime a major band replaces a singer, it creates division among the fan base. It can be a testy first listen, and an abrupt one, but it's worth it. *Born Again* is a hidden gem in a catalogue full of them, but it's an album that any self-respecting rock and metal fan owes a proper investigation.

FUN FACT: Before settling on Ian Gillan, Sabbath also reached out to Robert Plant (Led Zeppelin) and David Coverdale (Deep Purple, Whitesnake) for their vacant vocalist position. Among the many demo tapes the band received, one came from future pop singer Michael Bolton!



Courtesy of Vertigo/Warner Bros.

Essential TV

The Walking Dead returns

BY BRANDY ANDERSEN

Staff writer

The Walking Dead returns with new excitement and chilling events as the lead character Rick, (played by Andrew Lincoln), and the few survivors live out their days in prison.

This American horror drama was developed by screenwriter Frank Darabont. The show is based on the comic book series of the same name and authored by Robert Kirkman, Tony Moore, and Charlie Adlard.

The first episode aired Oct. 13, and begins with a recapping of the season three finale, where Rick takes the remaining people of the town Woodbury, and brings them into the prison for safety.

Daily chores and tasks

that the group does to survive are shown as the group supports each other inside the protective prison walls.

By the second episode, things start to turn for the worst as a flu-like virus enters the prison

leaving everyone and their safety exposed.

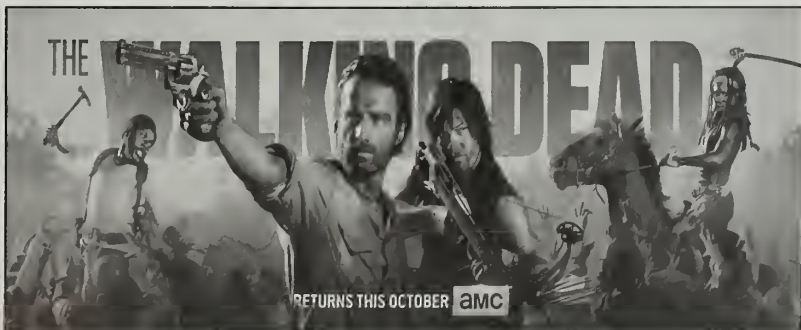
The group begins to question who to trust and who not to, and start to take matters into their own hands.

This season, which began

benignly, is turning out surprisingly frightening and leaves you yearning and curious for more with each passing episode.

This season is already turning out to be more thrilling and will

make you sit on the edge of your seat. I recommend this television series as a top must-see based on the popularity of the undead and the strong performance of the actors.



Courtesy of dailydead.com

Concert review

Viva la jazz revolution

BY PATRICK O'CARROLL

Staff writer

On Sunday October 20, 2013, the Musica Viva Faculty Recital was held in the Fine Arts Theatre at JJC. This jazz concert was headed by Assistant Professor Richard Moore and it demonstrated the impressive technical skill needed for jazz virtuoso.

"We wanted basically to put on a good show. We also want to try and reach out into the community; show opportunities for students, and of course to entertain," said Moore in an interview after the show.

The band consisted of Moore was on saxophone, Luke Malewicz on trombone, Joshua Ramos played an impressive bass guitar, Jonathan Marks kept rhythm with drums and Mark Nelson was key crazy on the piano.

While most of the music was composed by Moore, each member of the group contributed

with solos reflecting their style throughout the concert. During "Change Up," a song based off the Jazz classic, "I Got Rhythm," I was astounded at the bass solo performed by Ramos as he slid up and down the fret board, throwing out intense notes at the audience.

Another fantastic solo I listened to was Marks's drum solo on the song "Ostinato," during which Moore's saxophone playing got shadowed closely by some raunchy drum work. This went on for a few minutes—with each drum solo getting more and more

progressive as well as complex.

Moore dazzled us with some very intricate saxophone playing during the songs "Attention Span" and "Feeding Time." Malewicz had a spectacular trombone solo for "Change Up," which gave the song a unique feel compared to

the rest of the set.

Finally, there were some very smooth piano solos by Nelson during each of the seven songs they performed for us.

Moore, who teaches a number of classes including Applied Woodwind, Theory of Music and Exploration of Music Literature, told me that he has been teaching at JJC for one semester but has been playing for about 24 years.

Jazz is not as popular as it once was. Although still played and appreciated world-wide, the genre has not commanded the sort of attention it once had during its heyday from the 1920s through the 1950s.

"I believe because it's more artistic and that it's better to play something more artistic than to try and cater to everyone. Also, I feel that Jazz demands more of the listener."

Moore also takes an interest in classical clarinet and mentioned there will be a recital later in the fall. George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," comes to mind as I contemplate how that show will take shape.



courtesy of deviantart.com

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New Anime for fall 2013

BY BRITTNEY ANDERSEN

Production Manager

Kill La Kill



Genre: Magical Girl, Action, Comedy

Where to Watch: Crunchyroll, Daisuki, Hulu

What It's About in One Sentence: From the team that brought you Gurren Lagann comes a completely over-the-top magical girl anime where a wandering transfer student hunting her father's killer comes to a school ruled by a tyrannical student council president.

Beyond the Boundary



Genre: Modern Fantasy

Where to Watch: Crunchyroll

What It's About in One Sentence: A sophomore boy with a healing factor befriends a girl who can blood-bend.

BlazBlue: Alter Memory



Genre: Sci-Fi

Where to Watch: Funimation

What It's About in One Sentence: When the man with the world's biggest bounty on his head surfaces, the strongest fighters in the world converge on this location to take him down and collect the bounty.

All information and photos courtesy of otaku.com

Yowapeda: Yowamushi Pedal



Genre: Sports

Where to Watch: Crunchyroll

What It's About in One Sentence: A young otaku wanting to join the (recently disbanded) anime club at his school finds himself joining the cycling club instead.



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Watamote: high school Anime made hard

BY BRANDY ANDERSEN

Staff writer

Having been well-versed in the world of "Otome" games, also known as date simulation games, fifteen-year-old Tomoko Kuroki believes that she would become popular upon entering high school.

However, she discovers this is far from the truth as she winds up being an unsociable loner and is forced to take a long hard look at herself for the first time in years.

The story follows Tomoko as she attempts to improve her social status as she progresses through high school. The heroine of the series, who is often depicted as desperate, lonely and often deranged, going to various lengths to try and be more popular with others.

She has a grim outlook on life and often has heavy bags under her eyes. She is also rather perverted at times, often imagining dubious situations with boys or lustful after her friend, Yui.

There are twelve episodes to this short anime starting off with the main character, Tomoko, eagerly waiting to start a new life in high school.

When she starts attending high school, she soon realizes it is a lot harder to make friends and have the experience of high school life than she had hoped for.

She tries each day to figure out how to make herself stand out, but wastes one third of the semester not accomplishing a thing.

During a high school cultural festival, she encounters the student council president, Megumi Imae. Though Imae is friendly, she does not know how to react so she simply runs away.

The end of the series ends with a cliff-hanger with Tomoko looking towards the future and how she will spend the rest of her high school year.

Tomoko makes a goal for herself to try to follow through making friends and talk more without just telling herself she will. But watching this we suspect she has a plan to do something about her position in her class.

In my opinion, this was a very good anime. It has its funny points throughout the series and you find yourself cheering the young girl on as she goes through high school trying her best at being more social to make friends.

It was funny, cute, embarrassing, and all in all, Watamote was a great anime and I suggest anime fans to watch this.



The most popular period in anyone's life...

courtesy of watamote.wikia.com

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Injuries plague Chicago Bears

BY ELIAS ALBERT

Staff writer

The Chicago Bears entered the 2013 season with a long list of questions. With a new coaching staff led by head coach Marc Trestman, the team also saw a number of significant offseason acquisitions and, for the first time in 14 years, the team would be without superstar linebacker Brian Urlacher, who retired during the offseason.

As it would turn out, the Bears have also been bitten by the injury bug. Through seven games, the Bears have had four players' seasons ended, and those players were placed on the injured-reserve list. These include defensive tackles Henry Melton and Nate Collins; defensive back Kelvin Hayden; and linebacker D.J. Williams. Along with these, players like cornerback Charles "Peanut" Tillman, tight end Martellus Bennett, defensive tackle Stephen Paea, safety Major Wright, and defensive end Julius Peppers have had nagging injuries throughout the season. Unfortunately, the injury situation has only continued.

On Sunday October 20, the Bears took a trip to Landover, Md. to take on the Washington Redskins. The Redskins entered the game at 1-4, and the Bears came in at a sound 4-2. The game was rather exciting with a late touchdown by Washington to seal the victory in a final score of 45-41. Though the loss was

a setback, the real story of the game was the Bears' injuries. During the second quarter, Jay Cutler was sacked by Redskins' defensive lineman Chris Baker. On a seemingly nonviolent hit, Cutler would remain on the ground for minutes, as medical personnel tended to him, before he eventually gingerly walked off the field with what was later diagnosed as a torn muscle in his groin. He is expected to miss at least four weeks. The injuries wouldn't stop there as linebacker Lance Briggs would go down as well—with a small fracture in his left shoulder and is expected to miss at least six weeks.

The high number of injuries, besides being painful, is also extremely impactful on the Bears and the rest of this season. The defense has already shown that it's having a high amount of difficulty stopping opposing offenses. With the loss of Briggs,

the defense is condemned—for lack of a better term. After Briggs went down, Washington gained 234 yards on 27 plays and would total 499 yards of total offense in the contest. Now, as far as the offense, Cutler, though he'd struggle a bit during his shortened time in the game, has 1658 yards with 12 touchdowns and seven interceptions on the season to make it an impressive campaign—thus far. Josh McCown came into the game and did an impressive job with the help of running back Matt Forte. McCown's performance was promising, but it'll be hard to replace Cutler and the chemistry he has with his receivers.

The Bears will enter their bye week, where they will have two weeks to prepare for the, always challenging, division-rival Green Bay Packers as the Monsters of the Midway attempt to match together wins in absence of their battered stars.



Courtesy of sportslogos.net

Looking ahead

Women's basketball counting on young players

BY ELIAS ALBERT

Staff writer

Women's basketball at Joliet Junior College is preparing to take the court for the 2013 season. It's expected to be a much brighter season than the 2012 campaign that Coach Shaun Sanderson described as a "rollercoaster year."

The year concluded with the team earning a 12-18 record mainly due to the team's lack of chemistry, stability and health.

With the 2013 campaign beginning, Sanderson is looking forward to seeing how his team does. As far as improvements go, the defense is much stronger.

This is in relation to the nine new freshmen players who give the team quite a bit of talent and depth as well as a proficient knowledge of the game.

In any system, however, there are always a number of questions. Whiles the incoming freshmen bring benefits, with youth comes some need for maturity.

Sanderson wants to see how his team renets to this season, especially early on where season long trends can be forged.

He made the goals very straightforward yet complex by wanting his team to win conference, reach the 20-win mark, and as any coach would want, win a national title.

Sanderson has yet to name any captains calling it a "work in progress" which is definitely a potential characteristic of such a young team. There are players who stand out though, including freshman guards Le'royia Campbell and Sanaaultha Wirtz, and freshman forward/center Britany McWine.

By seasons end, these three ladies are expected to have a huge impact on the turnout of the Lady Wolves' fortunes.

As far as the conclusion of the year, Coach Sanderson hopes to be able to say "They, let's do this again," as he expects his roster to be driven and motivated.

Men's soccer

Wolves advance to District C title game

BY JOEL ROZA

Sports Editor

JC men's soccer team avenged two earlier losses this season and defeated Trilon College on Oct. 26, 2-0, to advance to the District C Championship on Nov. 2.

The Wolves toppled Trilon at the Schwaben Athletic Club in Buffalo Grove behind two goals by Leatle Masula and assists from Jonathan Iniguez and Gustavo Moreno.

Earlier in the week, the Wolves defeated Madison College in the Region IV semi-finals by a score of 1-0 on Wednesday.

Jameson Jamnik scored the game winner at 68:30 on an assist from Bryan Chavez while Luis Rivera earned another shut out for the season at goal.

Coach Chris Trillo commented after that the game featured

"no stand out in this match." Trillo continued, "We lacked concentration throughout the game and that was our biggest handicap."

Though the team struggled to put away the same team they've defeated with relative ease twice this season, Trillo gave credit where credit was due.

"It was a difficult game in which Madison played their best game this season."

He continued, "We had beaten them twice in the regular season but this time they came prepared to give their best effort."

Despite the mental lapses, Trillo hailed the game as "an important win."

He added, "If we play our best soccer, we can win the championship."

The Wolves were able to put it all together against Trilon as they advanced to the title game.

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SPORTS

Wolves enter season with high hopes



Practice makes perfect—or at least the Wolves hope so.

Photo by Lindsey Cantrell

BY JOEL ROZA

Sports editor

The Joliet Junior College men's basketball team is entering the 2013-14 season with a renewed hope of being able to build upon last season's success and vault themselves back into the National Championship conversation.

After finishing with a 22-10 overall record last season, a year which included an N4C Conference Championship, the Wolves come into this season with a roster chalk-full of first-year players, with only guards Leon Gray and Zoran Aresnovic and forward Justin Scanlan returning from last season's squad.

Assistant coach Keith Kinzler, entering his 18th season with the Wolves, doesn't see the young roster as a hindrance, rather just an element of junior college athletics.

"Well I think you have to understand at a junior college you always have young players," Kinzler said during a recent team practice. "You're only here for two years anyways, so you know, the kids we do have coming back — Zoran, who played at Moraine Valley last season and played for a National Championship, we're going to look to him this year."

Justin Scanlan, (who's) a few years out of high school and has also played somewhere else, we're going to look to them this year, and we do like the young kids.

"They're pretty mature for freshmen, so we're pretty confident about their abilities going forward. Every year is year-to-year, so we have a good feeling about this group of kids."

While the coaching staff will always be looked to as the leaders of the team, players must also glean leadership ability from their experiences. Kinzler noted that returning players Scanlan, Aresnovic, and freshman guard Larry Moore are the early leaders this season.

"Definitely Justin Scanlan, he's our leader," Kinzler said. "Also

our point guard, Larry Moore. He's pretty aggressive. The point guard always has the ball in their hands and he kind of leads in that way."

"We can't be the only ones yelling during timeouts," Kinzler said, and he's right. Basketball is a team sport and, as such, is a collaboration between the coaches and players, not an outright dictatorship.

Like a classroom full of students who stare blankly at the teacher when asked an all-hands question, that kind of attitude can't and won't be a part of the Wolves' philosophy.

"We can't be the only ones yelling during timeouts," Kinzler said, and he's right. Basketball is a team sport and, as such, is a collaboration between the coaches and players, not an outright dictatorship.

Though continuity at two-year colleges isn't a luxury many coaches enjoy, teams sometimes do grab a little continuity when they're able to sign players from the same high school. This season, freshmen guards Deiondre Cunningham and Larry Moore — both from Wisconsin Lutheran — will carry over their time together from high school to JJC.

"I think it helps you on the court and I think it helps off the court," Kinzler said. "Being away from home, stuff like that. Gelling with each other, makes it a little easier transition in life."

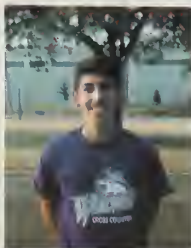
"We also have a couple of other kids from Milwaukee this year, so we have quite a few Milwaukee kids this year, more than any other year, so that does help."

As the team matures and gels, its initial bond will be with head coach Joe Kuhn and his staff as they project their system and will on the team.

"It's all business once we're in the gym," says returning forward Justin Scanlan. "It's 110% all the time. If you're not giving your all, he's not happy with you. You just have to come in and get to work."

The Wolves will get to work on Nov. 2 in their home and season-opener against Olivet Nazarene University JV at 7 p.m.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Hugo Hernandez
Men's Cross Country

Freshman Hugo Hernandez has been the leader of the pack for the Joliet Junior College men's cross country team. He recently finished in 47th place out of a 131 runners at the Bradley University Invite with a time of 28:21. He has competed well against other junior college teams and NCAA universities this season and should be a strong presence at the Region IV Championship meet on Nov. 2.



Jesse Dolman
Volleyball

Sophomore Jesse Dolman has been a mainstay for the Joliet Junior College volleyball team this season. In the Oct. 17 home victory against Milwaukee Tech, Dolman earned 8 kills, 7 digs, 3 aces and 2 solo blocks. She has 234 kills and 296 digs this season for the Lady Wolves.

Mental magic on display

Chris Carter performs 'mind-bending' show



Even a duct-tape blindfold couldn't block out Chris Carter's abilities.

Photo by Lindsey Cantrell

BY VICTORIA SHINER

Staff writer

Chris Carter, "The Mentalist," visited JJC and performed his mindreading act of intuition earlier this month, causing a stir with innate ability to accurately deduce what participants were thinking.

Students were in shock when he could guess a random card from a deck with participants only answering yes and no questions.

The show took place on Nov. 5 on the Center Bridge. He stunned girls when he was able to determine their first crush, and while blindfolded with duct-tape and silver coins blocking

his vision, he was able to guess what word the audience was thinking, even if it was obscure as "phantasmagoria."

"When he guessed that word it was my favorite part. Who would be able to guess a word like phantasmagoria?" JJC student Curtis Anderson exclaimed.

Carter was able to keep the audience engaged by using them as active participants in his performance. Students were taken aback because he was on point with nearly everything he said.

Baffled a volunteer asked "How did you guess that," after Carter was able to tell him point on facts of the volunteers' life.

"Cause I'm good," Carter swiftly replied.

Carter not only kept the audience engaged with different activities but kept his performance laid back and humorous with jokes and remarks; he had allowed a student volunteer the power of giving someone the chance to staple his hand.

He also was able to determine what unknown object a person was thinking about such as, woman's water bottle, a condom, and a card from the Atlantis Casino, with no problem, while blindfolded.

Some would call this magic, maybe even psychic, but it is not. His shocking skills do not come from psychic ability or magic tricks, but his skill in observing human behavior.

Carter is the exact definition of a people reader. He uses non-verbal and body language to gauge what people are thinking, and can determine their thoughts through the body language one gives off.

Carter is noted for being one of the best in the business. For 22 years Carter has done professional shows at corporate events and colleges and was named Entertainer of the Year in 2005 by Campus Activities Magazine.

His appearances display his talent by combining his skill for entertaining, and body language recognition, both of which brings an exciting performance to his audience.

'Christmas Carol' comes to JJC

BY RICHTARD MASKA

Co-Editor

JJC's theater season is wrapping up with the Fine Arts production of "A Christmas Carol," the Charles Dickens classic about grumpy businessman, Ebenezer Scrooge, who is visited by the three ghosts of Christmas past, present and future.

The department will bring the audiences back to England during the Victorian era, with four performances over the upcoming weekend. Open to both students and the general public, tickets are already on sale at the JJC box office.

Director Tammy Perkins is excited for the opportunity saying, "I've always wanted to do a Dickens play, and this year we were fortunate to have access to the theater this late in the year, so what better play to do than "A Christmas Carol?"

The story is well known, and has been adapted to stage and screen many times since the novel was first published in 1843. Each holiday season brings on a litany of staged adaptations by various theater companies nationwide and there have been numerous film versions. These include both animated features such as Disney's 2009 3-D take that starred Jim Carrey, as well as live-action movies like The Jim Henson Productions 1992 version, *A Muppet Christmas Carol*.

Because audiences are so familiar with the story, Perkins and her production team have been working out new ways to approach the play.

Perkins said one key difference that will be added involves how the ghosts approach Scrooge in their efforts to change him from a man who is cold and greedy, to warm-hearted and festive.

"Our thought is that Scrooge is already a very rational person, he needed to be to become so

See Carol on page 3

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EDITORIAL

Historic decision for LGBT: Gay marriage passes in Ill.

After long debates and endless campaigning, the Illinois General Assembly passed Senate Bill 10, making Illinois the 15th state to legally recognize same-sex marriages.

The fight was a long one. The bill was first passed in the senate earlier this year on Valentine's Day, and was then sent to the house. The house was expected to vote on the bill in May, but gay-rights activists were soon disappointed when the bill's sponsor, Rep. Greg Harris D-Chicago, pulled it off the floor. Harris felt he lacked the votes to guarantee the bill's passage.

This defeat led many gay-rights activists to organize campaigns to have the bill recalled during the fall-veto session. The summer was

filled with growing numbers of demonstrations, and concluded with an Oct. 22 rally that brought out thousands of supporters to Springfield.

Their strategy also included intense lobbying that tried convincing state House Speaker Mike Madigan, Democrat, to publicly announce his support of the bill. Activists felt that having Madigan back the bill was essential to its passing the house because of his influence in swinging undecided voters.

Madigan broke his silence on Nov. 5 by openly supporting the bill on the Illinois House Floor. After much debate, the house voted in favor of the bill, with 61 voting yes, and 54 voting no.

Governor Pat Quinn, who has come out in favor of marriage

equality since May of 2012, is expected to sign the bill on Nov. 20.

After the bill passed, gay-rights activists cheered and celebrated. Providing marriage-equality allows the rights and benefits of heterosexual couples to extend to same-sex couples as well.

The bill does not infringe on the rights of religious organizations, contrary to spin from the right.

A marriage-license will grant same-sex couples the same treatment as traditional couples, amounting to 1138 more rights than they previously had before.

"I think everyone knew it was only a matter of time before the U.S. finally came to their senses and let us (LGBTQ) be equal,

and finally have the rights we deserve," said Jax Benckendorf, the President of GLOW at JJC.

"Gay marriage in Illinois should've happened a long time ago, but still I am thankful for such an amazing thing."

Despite some back-lash from right-wing and anti-gay groups, the majority of Illinois supported the passage of the bill.

A week later on Nov. 12, Hawaii followed suit by becoming the 16th state to pass marriage equality.

The decision places Illinois at the forefront for promoting equal rights for all people in the United States, and reflects the growing shift in the attitudes of many who were previously opposed to same-sex marriage.

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Debunking Thanksgiving

BY RICHARD MASKO

Co-Editor

As America's annual holiday of giving thanks draws nearer, here's a few fun facts and 'did ya know?' for you to tuck on before you take out the turkey and the fixings while digesting a full day of football.

Turkey Talk

Contrary to folklore, turkey was not the featured dish at the first Thanksgiving celebration. While the pilgrims did bring wild turkey to the table, the featured dish was actually venison, or deer meat. This was courtesy of the native Wampanoag tribe, who also attended the celebratory feast, and the reason venison had to be served because of the roughly 90 Native Americans and nearly 50 pilgrims they needed to accommodate.

The fact that there were almost two Native Americans for every pilgrim may come as a surprise to many, whose visualization of the first Thanksgiving only has a handful of Native Americans at the table. Another surprising fact is that this and the sheer number of those in attendance runs counter to our perception of Thanksgiving as a close-knit family event.

The truth about Squanto

One of those natives in attendance was Squanto, an aid and translator for the pilgrims. Most know Squanto for teaching the pilgrims how to fertilize their fields with fish, a technique the natives used to help yield crops in the sandy, salty soils near

the ocean. Beyond this most do not know much else about Squanto, but his story is just as extraordinary as that of the pilgrims.

Squanto was captured as a teenager along with a number of other natives by a crooked fortune seeker named Thomas Hunt in 1615. Hunt then attempted to sell the captives as slaves in Spain but was stifled by a group of friars, who put an end to the auction.

Squanto then convinces the friars to allow him to try returning home, and he makes his way to London, where he gets a job in the shipyards. Here he masters English, eventually sailing to Cupids, an early English colony in Newfoundland, Canada. Some researchers claim that Squanto learns how to fertilize farm fields with fish from English settlers here.

When Squanto finally makes his way home, he arrives to find the Patuxet tribe to which he belonged completely decimated by diseases transmitted through contact with the Europeans.

However being able to speak English made Squanto extremely valuable to the remaining natives in the area, and he is soon chosen by Massasoit, chief of the Wampanoag to investigate this strange group of foreign settlers

The Lincoln connection

Thanksgiving had been regionally celebrated in New England since the days of the pilgrims, but it wasn't until the 1863 during the Civil War when President Lincoln declared Thanksgiving to be recognized as a federal holiday, set to be annually celebrated on the last Thursday in November.

No doubt Lincoln wanted the occasion to emphasize family togetherness in a time of terrible national suffering. The proclamation dedicating the holiday includes a hope that citizens direct their prayers in the hopes of, "tender care for all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged."

From then on, Thanksgiving becomes an integral holiday celebrated by armed services, especially during wartime. To this day mess halls serve up turkey, yams and cranberry sauce, giving troops a slice of home comfort while away on duty.

Later, President Franklin Roosevelt changed the date from the last, to the second-to-last Thursday in November, in an effort to give retailers more time to drive sales before Christmas.

The first Thanksgiving?

Were the pilgrims the first to celebrate Thanksgiving in America? Well, no, they were not. Both Europeans and Native Americans had long used Thanksgiving as a way to celebrate a successful harvest before the onset of winter.

In the Americas, there are at least two Thanksgivings that precede the pilgrims. Firstly was in 1541, when Spanish explorer Francisco Vasquez de Coronado celebrated a Thanksgiving with his troops while looking for El Dorado, the lost city of gold, in what is now northern Texas. Subsequent feasts were held by the Spanish in Florida in the 1500s.

The first Thanksgiving by

English settlers was held in Jamestown, Virginia in 1610 when a ship carrying supplies of food ended a colony-wide famine.

Are you ready for some football?

Football games on Thanksgiving Day are almost as old as the game itself. The first took place in 1869, less than two weeks after Rutgers and Princeton played what many consider the first American football game in history.

The tradition gained traction as various colleges and high schools began hosting their own "Turkey Bowls," pitting neighboring schools against one another. Often the two teams would play each other exclusively on Thanksgiving, creating rivalries that are played out to this day.

The Detroit Lions began playing "Turkey Bowls" as early as the 1930s, and since 1945 have been the permanent host of NFL football on Thanksgiving. Only six years after their formation, the Dallas Cowboys became the second NFL team to host the match annually.

Recently, for little reason other than money, the NFL has added a third Thanksgiving Day game starting in 2006, with teams rotating each year. This established the modern Thanksgiving routine forever: Wake up. Eat turkey. Take a nap. Then watch nine hours of mostly bad NFL matchups.

Turkey Bowls have been a mainstay in backyards throughout the country, often pitting rival sides of the family against each other, creating grudges that can last for years.

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U.S. Rep. Bill Foster talks budget at JJC

BY ALEX FORGUE

Co-Editor

Right now, the federal government is mired with a major deficit and debt problem that has developed over the last ten years. Everyone agrees that Congress has to develop a better budget, but few have answers on how to fix it.

In order to gain insight as to what constituents feel should be done about the federal deficit, Rep. Bill Foster D-Ill. teamed up with political advocacy group the Concord Coalition, for a visit to JJC on Nov. 4, to perform budget exercises to help people understand the nature of the federal deficit, and weight in by deciding what can potentially be made and where revenue should be raised.

Speaking only briefly to the crowd of about 35 people, from community members, state, and local politicians, Foster explained

that, "Congress is dealing with this deficit and my job today is to get feedback on what the people want to be done about it."

Born in Madison, Wis., Foster received his bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Wisconsin in 1976 and his Ph.D. in physics from Harvard University in 1983.

Before being elected to congress in 2008, Foster was president of Electronic Theatre Controls, a company he started with his brother at 19 and now manufactures almost half the theater lighting equipment used in the United States.

"As a businessman I try to find the win-win situation, and I want to find a solution that will benefit the most people," Foster said.

The event was sponsored by the Concord Coalition with representative was Sarah Imhof, the Midwest regional director of the non-partisan group directing the event.

"The goal," Imhof explained, "is to educate people about

federal budgets and deficits so they can make educated decisions and have an understanding at what congress is looking at."

Imhof gave a presentation showing how the deficit developed and where most of the money being spent was.

After the presentation, small groups were formed and participants were challenged to decide what government programs could be cut, how much funding to cut them by, as well as determine where potential tax hikes could take effect.

Each choice that the participants were given came with information about the program so that participants could make educated decisions on where cuts should be made.

Despite some disagreements on whether or not to raise the age threshold for retirement, or how to weigh potential cuts on Medicare, many found agreements on investing in education, raising taxes on the wealthy, and ending corporate subsidies.

Carol from page 1

wealthy, so no amount of logic and reasoning is going to get him to change his ways," Perkins explained, "so our thought was to have the ghosts scare him straight."

The hope is that adding this new wrinkle will give an exciting new dimension to the play.

As Perkins put it, "It's not going to be the happy-go-lucky Disney story that most people have seen a hundred times already."

One factor Perkins can count on to draw an audience is the fact that many people are interested in seeing a version of "A Christmas Carol" on stage because it transcends audience demographics by attracting a wide range of viewers including non-traditional theatergoers.

As Perkins explained, "Even if you're not into theatre, it's one of those plays that people go to see they can say that they have seen it on stage once in their lifetime."

The play will be shown in the fine arts theatre on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21-23 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 24, at 2 p.m. Tickets have already been selling for many of the dates, so those interested can call 815-280-2200.



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Gearing up for winter: Auto department gives free inspections

BY TRAVIS OLSON

Staff Writer

In preparation for the winter season ahead, the JJC Auto department hosted a free "car check-up" day to the general public. The event took place on Saturday Nov. 2 at the JJC's Automotive Service Shop and offered an array of stations that were set up to check each car's fluid levels, condition, as well as a tire alignment.

"We don't want to take away from local businesses, we are just creating a list of issues with the owner's car so he or she can take it to a repair shop to have it repaired," said Mr. Warning, an instructor of the automotive class.

The checks were done by JJC students themselves while instructors stood by and inspected how each student's performance progressed from the beginning of the year. Whether the student was in their first or second year, each had to demonstrate a level of professionalism with both their station and the equipment they

used.

Starting from the entrance door, the owner's car was first driven to the alignment station, with five or so students attaching high tech laser equipment to the car's wheels, to be analyzed by a computer, and give a nearest ten hundredth of a degree in wheel direction, finding the smallest minute detail of the chassis geometry, including toe and camber degree settings.

Even a new car, such as the pictured 2013 Fiat, was found to have a small alignment issue within in right front tire. While those diagnostics were taken place, two students hooked up terminal to the battery, connected to the computer. By this process, the battery life, and whether the car will start a car in frozen weather is determined.

Cars were then driven to the next station, which checked the

automobiles fluids from engine oil, gearbox oil, anti-freeze, were then checked along with setting tire pressure and lights.

The anti-freeze has its own unique procedure, "I take a coat hanger and dip in in the coolant reserve, then place a tab of anti-freeze in a refract-o-meter," said Ryan Mater, a student of the auto program.

"The refract-o-meter is then held up into the light like a

kaleidoscope and through a sight glass, the mechanic can predict the cold weather performance of the anti-freeze."

Mater explained that if the fluid resists freezing until negative 20 degrees Fahrenheit and lower, than the fluid is sufficient as it is, but he cautioned that, "If the number is above that [temperature], a coolant change is in order."

Also serviced were the check engine light, belts, and hoses, all of which were inspected and documented. The cars are then finally driven out of the shop, and a two page printout is handed to the owner. The print out consisted of every check made, in all 44 inspections were made.



Photos by Travis Olson

These JJC automotive students put in a long day helping car owners get their cars and trucks ready for the rapidly approaching winter season.

The auto center ran a battery of tests on this 2013 Fiat as part of the recent car-care event.

It's not 'What's your sign,' it's 'Here's your sign'

BY JESSICA
HEICHEL KAFFEL

Staff writer

The worlds of the hearing and the deaf come together every Tuesday when Here's Your Sign ASL Club meets to educate peers about the deaf culture and language. The club meets in E-202 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to work to eliminate the barriers between the deaf, the hard-of-hearing and hearing people.

Here's Your Sign was founded last year by Veronica Pollard. The club hopes to shed light on deaf culture and to share it with anyone who wishes to learn.

"This club is not just about learning to sign, but about the communication between deaf and hearing people," said promotions officer Destiny Phillips.

With a clear mission statement, the clubs purpose it to encourage the elimination of the gap between deaf, hard of hearing, and those without hearing afflictions. They work to

bring these cultures together into harmony by showing that signs are to the eyes what words are to the ears.

"The most interesting part of the club is that it is student led. The students are the teachers and I am just here for support," said Advisor Mary Holden. Holden also serves as the club's translator.

Being a student led club, it gives the members a chance to teach each other. It is a different and new way of learning, and the club encourages all members to share.

Anyone is welcome to join this club. No knowledge of sign language is required to become a member. Members who come in clueless may leave with new knowledge of a different culture, and should be prepared to learn to sign, while also learning about deaf culture history.

"They will be exposed to a great heritage," said Club Secretary Janet Sharik.

Throughout the meeting, the members learn and review different signs and interact with

each other. They speak as little as possible in order to develop their signing.

The club also has hopes to gain the attention of the school as well. American Sign Language is not recognized as a language in JJC curricula, so the club hopes its influence will help it to become one.

"This is a starting point of exposure," said Sharik. "My dream is that JJC will recognize ASL as a language, and to start an interpreter training program for future translators."

"I would like the school to know about the different signs you'll learn and the stories you'll hear when being a member of this club," said Holden.

Here's Your Sign has an upcoming event at the Center Bridge on Nov. 22 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., where participants can experience a new way of enjoying music with their Deaf Idol contest. The club will also be selling cookies from Dec. 16-19 at several locations throughout campus.

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Police Blotter

Hit and run

Zachary T. Sullivan of Bollingbrook, was issued a citation for failure to provide aid or information following a collision with another vehicle at Main Campus East Lot 2.

Police said the incident took place on Oct. 9 between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Vandalism at CC

According to JJC Police six men were apprehended on Oct. 27 because of BB and paintball gun shots that were fired at Centennial

Commons, resulting in a broken window. For discharging a gun on student grounds, Demarco Q. Markham was issued a Notice of Trespass for all JJC properties.

The other five men were issued student code referrals but not charged.

Parking lot collision

Following a two-car collision on Cwiklo Dr., Wilmington resident Tyler R. Oakley was issued a citation by JJC Police on Nov. 1 at 11:06 a.m.

News Briefs

STEM Transfer Fair

Popular colleges and universities will be available on Dec. 4 to help students obtain information on pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) after completing their Associates in Sciences degree at JJC.

The fair will be held in the "T" Rear Concourse of the main campus, and will take place at 4:00 p.m. The event is open to both JJC and high school students, as well as veterans and community members.

Those interested in more information can contact Luann DiMonte at 815-280-2725, or by emailing ldimonte@jjc.edu.

Life skills lesson

The Office of the Dean of Students will be hosting an event geared toward teaching students the various strategies one can use to obtain the support and resources that help achieve academic success.

The free class will cover how to implement the kind of behavior that lead to positive life choices.

The event will be Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. and held on main campus.

For more information or to register for the class, please stop by the Office of the Dean of Students A-1100 or call 815-280-2759.

Fall Fine Arts Rundown

The JJC Fine Arts Department will have another busy fall concert series, featuring both vocal and ensemble performances from students and staff alike.

The JJC Jazz Band will be performing on Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

The Chorale group will stage their annual Carols and Chocolate on Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. The concert tells the story of Christmas via nine medieval carols from various European countries. The performance will feature student soloists and instrumentalists in addition to the 45-voice community choir.

The Chamber Singers and the Culinary Department will be teaming up for their MadridGala concert, which will be held on Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m.

The JJC Community Band will perform on Dec. 15 at 3:00 p.m. Headed by Prof. Charles Morgan, the 100-member instrumental ensemble is comprised of

students, faculty and community members of high school age or older.

The final concert for the fall series will be the Guitar/Percussion Ensemble's Dec. 17 show at 7:30 p.m. All events will take place in the Fine Arts Theater on JJC Main Campus, and tickets can be purchased at the box office.

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Black Friday survival guide

BY BRITTNEY ANDERSEN

Production Manager

Black Friday is coming up and you know what that means; great deals, and crazy shoppers. But do not worry, we have some great tips for you to get what you need and avoid the crazies!

Gather a group.

Have you ever went Black Friday shopping and found yourself wondering, how you can grab that video game in the electronics department, then shoot all the way over to the furniture to pick up that great looking ottoman?

Well, good news, because we have the solution! A great way of shopping Black Friday is to bring a good sized group with you. Form groups of two so that each pair can be at a different place to pick up a different item when sales start.

Before you split up, make sure you have a meet up spot so you won't have to frantically look for each other when you're done with your shopping.

Dress Appropriately.

You know it will probably be

super cold out the night you go. Bundle up, but not so much that you cannot move freely. Another thing you need to make sure of is your shoes.

This is not the time to be wearing your five inch heeled boots. Wear comfortable gym shoes because you know you are going to be running around, standing for hours, and getting stepped on by everyone.

Know what you want.

Before you even step foot in the car to go to any store on Black Friday, make a list and know what you want to get. Most stores should have some teasers on what they will be selling for Black Friday so research what stores have what, and where the best deals are.

Write a list of things you want to buy that day and make copies for your group. Just in case

they're standing in line for an item and somehow forgot what they are supposed to be picking up.

Make friends.

A great way of making sure you get the stuff you need is by making friends while you wait. Some stores, like Wal-Mart, let the customers in the store and wait in front of the Black Friday

sale items until they signal you to grab the stuff.

One problem with this is that you can't get to the other items on the other side of the square shelving, so what better way of getting them then by befriending the people on the other side. That way, you can make deals with them to grab something from there and meet them somewhere else once you grabbed their stuff, then exchange!

Skip the cart.

Carts are typically convenient to hold all of your stuff in but not on Black Friday.

Carts are bulky and are too hard to move through the crowds of people blocking your path. Another bad thing about having a cart is that you will always get that one crazy shopper who is willing to steal your stuff out of your cart. If you do have too much on your list to hold, try using the shopping baskets. Since your other group members will be getting some other stuff on your list, you won't be carrying so much.

Hopefully, you all will have a fun and safe Black Friday this year!



Courtesy of digitaltrends.com

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Anar Akhundov

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Nicole Spizzirri

For fun on the new Elmhurst team, I did student government. I'm an Alpha Phi. I traveled to Turkey. I've made great connections. I've grown — both personally and professionally.



Veterans Day

JJC pays homage to veterans

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

Veterans of America's Armed Services were honored on Nov. 8 on the Center Bridge at JJC's Main Campus with a ceremony that paid tribute to their contributions and sacrifices in recognition of Veterans Day. Serving as color bearers, the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Memorial Squad served as color bearers, and was given special thanks for their rendition of "Taps," and a flag folding demonstration.

"We love the courage of our veterans, for they truly are an agile and adapting group of people," said Major Jesse L. Maggitt, US Army, Ret.

Maggitt's speech focused on emphasizing the skills and qualities that many returning vets can bring to the work force. Especially the over 80,000 vets he said currently living in Illinois.

The ceremony was open to students and the public. Veterans old enough to be grandparents were side by side with others as young as 22 years of age. Some of whom were on their way to class before stopping to watch.

Members of the JJC Chamber Singers and Chorale there to sing our National Anthem, as well as, "Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones," a song that was written in part by Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, as a way to honor those who have fallen in service to our country.

As part of the ceremony's opening remarks, Bette Conkin, the dean of arts and sciences at JJC, spoke about the origin of Veterans Day, which is traced back to the signing of the armistice that ended World War I, some 95 years ago.

She explained that Veterans Day was then, as it is now, a celebration of the peace that our armed services are sworn to uphold.

"Our service men are doing a great deal of work for our country, and we are here today to recognize all of those who put their lives on the line for our country," said Conkin.

"What we are acknowledging on this particular day is that war should bring about peace, and that is the job of our servicemen and women to help bring about that peace."

Maggitt gave his appreciation for the service men and women, who not only defend our country and constitution, but are also among the first responders to natural disasters at home, as abroad, such as the earthquakes in Haiti and Japan.

"When you need them they're always there, they are among us right now ... when you're tired

they're not, when you're awake, they're awake, and when you're asleep, and they are still awake. Always ready, always agile, and always on guard."

A native of Chicago, Maggitt was an Army Assistant Chief of Staff of Logistics in South Korea, and has worked with several Fortune 500 companies such as Chrysler, Fiat, and Kraft Foods, to improve their logistics and manufacturing operations.

"Even after all the peace and combat missions are over... your veteran has the courage to face yet an even harder mission; which is to fit in here in our society," said Maggitt, who is a strong advocate for improving the opportunities for veterans after they leave the armed services.

"Academic institutions and employers, please note that you don't have to look far for talent, they're right here among us every single day, said Maggitt.

"They strengthen the future of America as we know it and will always be here to set the standard for you."

The rhetoric Maggitt used was consistent with a growing national sentiment that gears public opinion towards looking to improve the experience of veterans returning home from overseas deployment.

This has given rise to groups such as The Wounded Warrior Project, which is an organization assists in the medical treatment of soldiers undergoing physical and psychological wounds that were caused during their term of service.

Veteran advocacy groups, at both local and federal levels, have also been working to decrease the number of unemployed servicemen and women who are struggling with unemployment following their tour of duty.

They help vets locate new job opportunities, and like Maggitt, work to show the qualifications they gained from being in the service.

"Always adapting, veterans treat returning to school as a continuous improvement mission, and manage the chaos of a college or workplace environment with courage," said Maggitt, describing the qualities a veteran can offer.

"You'll find they'll ask for more, even when you think it's hard."

The procession concluded with a musical medley that spliced the theme song of each branch of the armed services. Vets then stood in recognition as their anthem was played in progression throughout the song.

Afterwards food and refreshments were served with the youngest and the oldest veteran in attendance cutting the ceremonial cake.



Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Color Guard represents each branch of Armed Services.



Major Jesse L. Maggitt US Army, Ret., "We love the courage of our veterans."



The Color Guard ceremoniously folds the American flag.

Photos by Lindsey Cantrell

Students reflect on meaning of holiday

BY VICTORIA SHINER

Staff Writer

What does Thanksgiving mean to you?

Thanksgiving has been a long tradition in American history of food, festivities, and giving thanks for friends and loved ones. But one of the wonderful aspects about the holiday is that no family traditions are the same. With this in mind, we asked students to share shared their own favorite Thanksgiving experiences.

We asked students what some of their favorite Thanksgiving foods, memories and traditions are, selecting the most notable. Some

answers were less traditional than others, but each reflects what the holiday means to them and their family.

What is a Thanksgiving tradition that you have?



Sam Delion-
"We have a tradition of going to Wisconsin and shoot a box of shotgun shells."

Dan Leleniewski-
"[My family] watches TV from the dinner table and yells at each other."

What is your favorite thing to eat at Thanksgiving?



Brandy Andersen-
"I love my aunt's homemade green bean casserole and her scumptious sweet potato casserole."

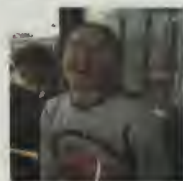


Wilton Bilon-
"Sweet potato pie is my favorite. I am

thankful that I get to eat it."

Caitlyn Girard-
"We always have turkey made three different ways, and cranberry sauce from scratch every year."

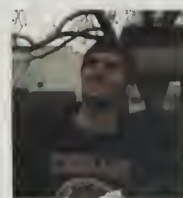
What is your favorite Thanksgiving memory?



David Pennington-
"There was this one time this guy got shot across the street. We were at my grandpa's house in Chicago. A man fired shots and hit someone through

a window."

What are you most



thankful for?

Dan Bosko-
"I like being with family. That's what



I'm thankful for."

Sergio Morales-
"I am thankful for my family and my son."

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Manga review: 'A Devil and Her Love Song' mixes genres

BY BRITTNEY ANDERSEN

Production Manager

"A Devil and her Love Song" is a Japanese graphic novel or manga that mixes romance, comedy and drama into a genre called shojo.

Like many shojo manga series, "A Devil and her Love Song" is a mix of romance, comedy and drama.

The story follows high school student Maria Kawai, who transfers to Totsuka High School after being expelled from her previous school St. Katria - a Catholic school for girls.

Upon entering the classroom and hearing the students' gossip, she bluntly

states that the reason for her expulsion was an act of violence on her teacher. Maria's sharp tongue and frank nature, hidden under her pretty face, immediately causes Maria to become enemies with her classmates.

Maria has always had a hard time making friends because of the fact that she reads people well and does not hesitate to tell the person the real nature of their personality. Nevertheless, Maria hopes for a fresh start.

She manages to become close with two of her classmates after they heard her singing beautifully. Yusuuke Kanda, being one of them, treats everyone kindly and is friendly, despite the fact that he is not much of a people person.

He tries to teach her how to give a people a "lovely spin" while talking to them, which should help her get along better with others, but it has the opposite effect that causes Maria to look even more intimidating.

Her other friend is Shin Meguro, who is tall, dark-haired, and always frowning, but cannot help going out of his way to help somebody when they are in need.

After a while, she befriends another student, Tomoyo Kousaka, who used to act shy and nice, but after Maria tells her how she really feels to Tomoyo's face, she comes to terms with her impulses and speaks what is on her mind.

Throughout the year Maria faces many problems,

mainly getting along with others, including her own teacher, who winds up Maria's biggest enemy. Throughout the manga her teacher makes attempts to pin the other students against Maria in hopes of teaching her a lesson on how to behave, and uses her as a scapegoat for all the wrong doings in the classroom.

From volumes one through four, the teacher pushes the role of school choral competition conductor on Maria by giving her the responsibility of being in charge of the whole class. At first, all the students are against her, boycotting the practices she sets up.

But, after a while, they see how fun her and her friends are having, so they

join in. Once the whole class is finally friendly with each other, the teacher ruins it by pouring ink on Maria and blaming it on one of the students.

This manga is funny, charming, and super cute. You instantly fall in love with the characters, and you're always going to be rooting for Maria through her issues.

You will find yourself becoming incensed by her peers, resorting to yelling at the book when she comes across new enemies who try to take her away from her friends and the one she loves!

I recommend this manga to anyone who is a fan of a great shojo manga that puts you on a rollercoaster of emotions.



Courtesy of retomicha.wordpress.com

Film Review

A new game for 'Ender'

Veteran actors Harrison Ford and Ben Kingsley give life to sci-fi epic

BY PATRICK O'CARROLL

Staff Writer

Director Gavin Hood thrills and excites with the newest film adaptation of the 1985 novel "Ender's Game."

The film is backed by an amazing all-star cast which includes Harrison Ford, Asa Butterfield, Viola Davis and Sir Ben Kingsley.

A fair warning to anyone who is looking for a comparison between the novel and the film, you will not find that in this article. I have not read the novel so I can judge this solely on the basis of the film.

It starts off with Mazer Rackham (Ben Kingsley), victorious against the formic race of invaders on Earth in 2086, doing so by sacrificing himself in a one-on-one battle with the mother-ship.

Asa Butterfield stars as Andrew "Ender" Wiggin, a child of superior intelligence who gets promoted from a military academy to Battle School by Colonel Hyrum Graff and Major Gwen Anderson, played by Harrison Ford and Viola Davis respectively. Upon his

arrival to Battle School, Ender is initially greeted with slight hostility because of his cognitive advantage over the other cadets, as well as his sergeant.

During his downtime in school, Ender starts dabbling in a mind game on a tablet device

which leads to a promotion in the Salamander Army. Salamander Army is headed up by Bonzo (Moises Arias), who is very strict when it comes to victory during battle training.

Despite a power struggle between officer and cadet, Ender

is nonetheless promoted again to lead his own team - The Dragon Army.

Finally, after another victory, Ender is promoted one last time to Command School. Upon arriving at Command School, Ender is confronted by a strange tattooed

man who turns out to be Mazer Rackham.

Under strict rules and even greater scrutiny, Ender is charged to lead his own legion of troops against the formic menace in a very elaborate simulation. In his final test, Ender must command an entire offensive on the formic's home planet.

With dazzling special effects that takes the audience into outer space with Ender, Ender's Game will please both sci-fi and action fans everywhere.

The acting shown by both Harrison Ford and Ben Kingsley are performances that were not only outstanding but also very commanding. Asa Butterfield also does a stand up job by giving his character a logical and emotional aspect to his character.

The biggest flaw I can point out is the predictability of the plot which bumps the rating down a bit. But Ender's Game will definitely launch you out of your seat into the unknown but you will start to catch on real quick.

3 out 5 Stars



Courtesy of Summit Entertainment



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Film Review

Marvel brings Norse Mythology back to life in *Thor: The Dark World*

BY KRISTI BEDOLLA

Staff writer

It is the era of superhero movies and Kevin Feige and Marvel Entertainment stand at the top as kings. Marvel Studios is at its prime, churning out hit after hit and the news of future installments of Avengers, Captain America, and Guardians of the Galaxy prove Marvel Entertainment is not slowing down.

Released on Nov. 8, *Thor: The Dark World*, has returning stars such as Chris Hemsworth (Thor), Natalie Portman (Jane Foster), Tom Hiddleston (Loki), and Anthony Hopkins (Odin) bring Norse Mythology back to life in this sequel.

When we last saw Thor, he was battered but still breathing after the Tesseract was used to open a portal, letting Loki's army run havoc all over Manhattan.

Now, Thor is bringing Loki back to Asgard to face his judgment from Odin. Odin remains firm and Loki's fate is eternal imprisonment in an Asgard prison cell, but well furnished.

Back on Midgard, or Earth for us mortals, Jane Foster is still in London awaiting the return of Thor. She's on a lunch date when Darcy (Kat Dennings) interrupts and mentions the readings on a meter are fluctuating. Jane leaves the date and follows Darcy and her intern to an abandoned shipyard. With the help of some kids, they find a cement truck that has defied the laws of physics and

can float and spin in the air.

Jane goes to investigate and stumbles into a portal and comes back out five hours later, oblivious to what happened to her while she was missing. Something has happened to her because she accidentally produces energy repulsion while trying to defend herself after Darcy calls the police.

Thor finally comes back to Jane after being "missing" and saves her from questioning by using the new Bifrost that was destroyed in the first Thor. They land in Asgard and Jane is looked at by Asgardian healers.

They can't find anything wrong until Jane tries to defend herself from Asgard guards. Odin then tells the story of Malekith and the evil elves who want to turn all the worlds dark with the help of a dangerous fluid substance called the Aether. Jane has the Aether in her system.

Odin can't save her and her presence awakens the evil elves and Asgard is under attack. Thor devises a plan and needs the help of his friends and Loki to help save Jane and ultimately the worlds from turning dark.

Director Alan Taylor did a phenomenal job with the sequel to Thor. There is a lot more action in this film than the previous one. This time, there is a bit darker tone to the film than the previous light hearted Thor movie. The cinematography done by Kramer Morganthau was great and visually pleasing.

Overall the film and art direction was great. If you're a Marvel fan, you won't be disappointed.

CHRIS HEMSWORTH NATALIE PORTMAN TOM HIDDLESTON ANTHONY HOPKINS AS ODIN



Courtesy of Marvel Studios



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Deep Cuts: 2010's *Prior To The Fire* by Priestess another hidden gem

BY JOEL ROZA

Staff writer

One of the many joys of living in San Francisco is the vibrant music scene that emanates from all around the city. In 2006, I discovered Priestess during their tour supporting Black Label Society and Black Stone Cherry.

Their debut album, *Hello Master*, was a raw-sounding ode to a number of influences, including Black Sabbath and AC/DC, and their live set was a bombastic assault on the senses. They never toned it down or cooled it off. They stayed right in your face for 35 glorious minutes.

I would not describe Priestess as heavy metal, but rather a progressive form of hard-rock that touches many different sources of influence — metal, classic rock, punk, and prog rock.

Three years later, the Montreal natives re-emerged with their second LP, *Prior To The Fire*. Leading off with the sinister "Lady Killer," for which a music video was made for, the album instantly stands out as a more polished, complex hard rock outing than its predecessor.

Priestess, along with its hard rock influences, also has a punky feel that can be attributed to front man Mikey Heppner's time in the punk group, The Dropouts.

Record label pressure over which song would come out as the single, as well as a desire for more songs, led to a delay in release and a switch in labels.

When the album finally did emerge in America in October 2009, "Lady Killer" became the single and it's a glorious slice of hard rock majesty. "Raccoon Eyes" and "The Firebird" are instantly catchy tunes with just enough alternative presence to be accessible to mainstream radio, but heavy and complex enough to retain their integrity.

I have a rule. If a band writes and records a song about *Robocop*, I owe it a listen. Cited as Heppner's favorite movie growing up,

the song "Murphy's Law" is the flat-out best (and only) tribute to the reanimated robot hero of the late 80's and 90's that I've ever heard.

The song leads right into the album's masterpiece, the eight-minute long "The Gem," which contains everything fans of this band love — twin guitars, pulsating drums, frenetic guitars throughout, and Heppner's always-sizzling vocals. Tempo changes are the norm in this one, so it's not really geared for radio play, but it is a favorite of Priestess fans.

"Communicating Via Eyes", a song about an outdoor excursion gone wrong, starts off with a rare acoustic moment with Heppner, but quickly kicks into high and heavy gear. Songs like "Lunar," "It Baffles the Mind," and "We Ride Tonight" enhance the heavy delivery that Priestess are so well-known for, while "Sideways Attack" holds a bit of an Iron Maiden-esque tempo.

The album ends with "Trapped in Space & Time," a 4:46 fast-paced scorcher that finishes the album in a glorious rush. There really is not a weak spot on the album, and it still tastes good going down four years later.

After a quick 2010 tour, Priestess — a band on the rise — vanished from the scene. Their record label, their Facebook and Twitter sites, and their own site fell dormant without much of an update, leaving many to assume that the band had quietly split.

When yours truly sat down to write this, I hopped onto Facebook for no good reason to find that Priestess had re-emerged by way of release of a previously-unreleased track from *Prior To The Fire*, called "Castle Dracula."

No other news came with the track. No tease, nothing. As for the track itself, like the rest of *Prior*, it's an enjoyable few minutes of Priestess.

I heavily enjoy Priestess and their two LPs worth of music and hope more is coming someday soon. But until then, their albums can be found online or at independent record stores in the city, if you are headed that way.



Courtesy of Tee Pee Records

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Wolves men sprint to 3-0 start as season gets underway

BY JOEL ROZA AND
LINDSEY CANTRELL

Staff writers

With three games in the books, the Wolves stand at an early mark of 3-0 after a 70-68 thriller over Lake Michigan College last Thursday.

Zoran Aresonovic scored a team high 16 points, while Kylee Beheler lead all Wolves with 11 rebounds.

With two of their first three games being decided by five or less points, the Wolves are no strangers to close games.

After roaring out of the gates on Nov. 2 with a 77-72 season-opening win over Olivet Nazarene University JV, the Wolves' next game on Nov. 7 against Purdue-Calumet University was canceled, giving the team ten days to prepare and rest up.

In that season-opening tilt, freshman Deiondre Cunningham led the Wolves with 20 points, followed by sophomore Zoran Aresonovic with 13 points, along with three treys.

Sophomore Justin Scanlan narrowly missed a double-double with 8 points and a team-high 10 rebounds, while freshman Larry Moore ended up with 8 points.

In Tuesday's game, the Wolves defeated Prairie State, 81-69, with standout performances from Todd Brown, Zoran Aresonovic, and Anthony Carroll, who is averaging 13.5 ppg.

The Wolves are beginning to gel well,



The Wolves' Anthony Carroll drives into a crowded lane looking to make a play against Prairie State on Nov. 12. Photo by Lindsey Cantrell

and their prospects for a deep run look brighter than ever.

Head Coach Joe Kuhn was effusive in his praise of the team's opening night victory, stating that he "really liked" the defensive effort against a very good Olivet team.

"We have a long way to go which is typical for this time of year," said Kuhn.

Coach was quick to add that, "there were a lot of team and individual positives that we demonstrated."

The Wolves will look to finish strong before their nine day layoff with home games against Robert Morris University JV on Nov. 21, and Kennedy-King College on Nov. 26.

3 REASONS

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3 REASONS

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SPORTS

Lady Wolves rebound after tough start



Kantrall Averhard beats the Prairie State College defense for a layup on Nov. 12.

Photo by Lindsey Cantrell

BY JOEL ROZA AND
ELIAS ALBERT

Staff writers

A 98-33 season-opening loss to Illinois Central College on Saturday, Nov. 2 carried over to the Kirkwood Classic, as the Lady Wolves dropped both of those games, 85-43 to Kirkwood College on Nov. 8, and 69-52 to Iowa Central Community College on Nov. 9.

The slow start is in direct contrast to the hopes of the team and coach Shaun Sanderson, as

they came out of last season's 12-18 campaign hoping to get a jump on the competition this season.

That has not happened through the first three games, but the Lady Wolves took the court on Tuesday night against Prairie State College, hoping to end their streak and perhaps find a rhythm and a go-to formula to keep the team on the W-side of the win/loss column.

Determination paid off as the Lady Wolves conquered Prairie State, 60-47.

Samantha Wurtz, a freshman guard from Minooka, whom head Coach Shaun Sanderson pointed

out as a "stand out" player, was profiled from beyond the three-point line Tuesday night, making herself a force on the offensive attack.

She has 17 3-point field goals thus far this season, averaging a total of 15.2 ppg and has also played strong and steady defense.

So suffice to say, Coach Sanderson was right.

In addition to Wurtz, players like Le'royia Campbell, another one of Coach Sanderson's "stand outs", Kantrall Averhart, and Laporschia Williams showed great ability and effort.

As a team, they appear to

have things well in place. Their offensive play gives them the potential to score plenty of points this season.

Through what they have shown thus far, they have a plan on getting a big lead early on, and then playing smart and safe the rest of the way.

The strategy also seems to be to get to the free throw line as they seem to get there early and often.

On defense, the play can be just as stingy as it is on offense. They play a strong perimeter defense that forces opponents to commit errors and lose potential scoring

opportunities by way of turnovers and offensive fouls.

However, this picture of success does have its flaws, most crucial and glaring of which is in the rebounding category.

As well as giving up some size and height, they struggle to have a dominant presence on the boards. They struggle on both offensive and defensive rebounds, which is something that Coach Sanderson should look to improve upon.

Still, the Lady Wolves will look to build upon their recent success and look to come out strong following the Thanksgiving break.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE



Anthony Carroll

Averaging 13.5 points per game this season. Scored 7 points and had 4 assists vs. Olivet Nazarene University JV. Had 20 points and 5 assists against Prairie State College. Also went 10-for-10 from the free throw line against Prairie State.



Samantha Wurtz

Samantha is averaging 15.2 points per game after four games. Has 17 3-point shots made for the season: 10 points vs. Illinois Central 9 points vs. Kirkwood CC 21 points vs. Iowa Central (six 3-pointers) 21 points vs. Prairie State (five 3-pointers)



Diamond Estates after the tornado hit on Nov. 17.

Courtesy of Emily McCulla

First-hand account

Tornado victims surviving and thriving

BY JOEL ROZA

Staff Writer

In the wake of the devastation of the Washington and Diamond/Coal City tornadoes on the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 17, there stood many stories of tragedy, of loss, of destruction, and thankfully, of survival.

In the interest of full disclosure, the account you are about to read is a survival story from my wife, Megan, who

narrowly survived the tornado in Diamond, while at work at Naked Sun Tanning and Day Spa.

Her story, like so many others, is too harrowing, too personal, and too close to the vest to be told by anyone else, or be diluted by a line of questioning. This is her story in her own words, words that I'm forever grateful that she's still here to say.

Megan's story:

"Not long after the sirens went off, my phone's weather alert siren also went off saying

'IMMEDIATE DANGER TAKE SHELTER NOW.' So we all crammed into the office at Naked Sun. That's when I heard from my sister who said it was in her backyard.

I don't think I took it seriously until then. Right after I spoke to her, my boss called and I told her what my sister said. We were on the phone maybe two minutes when the last thing I heard was "Oh my God it's in my yard," and the line was disconnected.

So I hunkered down as the wind picked up next to the

girls and just stayed silent and breathed deeply. I didn't know what else to do. As the wind picked up you could feel the pressure in the building. It sounded and felt like we were going to blow up.

I took a look at the computer monitor which displayed the store's different camera angles on it and saw the lobby look like it was throbbing and about to burst.

Dust was coming out of the ceiling tiles, which made it look like everything in the lobby

ripped apart. That's when we lost power and my first thought was, "Oh my God, I'm going to die".

I kept breathing and listened to my friend cry as another girl repeatedly said, "It's going to be okay," while it sounded like a plane landed on the building. All I heard was crashes, things breaking, and felt the pressure in the building rise as if it was about to tear right out of the ground.

It couldn't have lasted more

See Tornado, Page 6

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Inside look at Indian activist group, the Gulabi Gang

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Review on the Hunger Games: Catching Fire

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JJC Mens basketball team still rolling!

Page 12



EDITORIAL

Hundreds arrested for protest of Walmart

While most Americans think of Black Friday as a day to shop for low deals and as retailers prepare for one of the busiest shopping days of the year, workers at Walmart and a few other retail stores used the day to fight the terrible working conditions that they face.

Walmart employs the most people in the country, but is also the number one job destroyer in this country. For every two jobs Wal-Mart creates, it destroys three jobs. The reason is that Walmart often forces a lot of local small businesses to close, and the workers who end up working at Walmart make less than what they would have at one of the local businesses.

But, how low does Walmart actually pay? Most Walmart workers make minimum wage. These wages are so low that Walmart workers are the country's largest recipients of welfare programs such as food stamps and Medicare; in fact, the average Walmart store costs taxpayers \$400,000 each year.

So in protest over their low pay, long hours and hard work, workers walked out on strike on Black Friday in hopes to unionize and to have Walmart meet their demands for more fair working conditions.

Protests began on Thursday night and continued into Friday. The protests were met with community support from other labor unions, Occupy Movement activists, and local community members who want to see workers treated fairly by their employer.

At some of these protests, workers and other activists conducted civil disobedience and were arrested; there is an estimated of over 110 people who were arrested for protesting Walmart's corporate greed.

However, these Walmart strikes

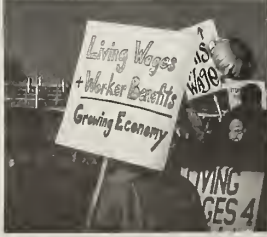
and Black Friday protests are part of a bigger movement to unite the 99% of the population against corporate greed. They are part of a new movement of workers called "Fight for \$15" who seek to raise the minimum wage to fifteen dollars an hour.

The fight to raise the minimum wage has been echoed by President Obama in a recent speech to supporters on Dec. 4 when he called for a fair raise in wages that would ensure those working fulltime for minimum

wage could earn enough to stay above the poverty line.

On Wednesday Nov. 27, workers at Whole Foods in Chicago walked out on strike in order to have Thanksgiving Day off. Sensing the clout the protests have gained, and wishing to avoid negative backlash, Whole Foods sided with the workers and allowed workers to stay home on Thanksgiving.

Although there is no word on how much more successful these strikes were, many workers feel like they had made a point to their employers.



Determined protestors braving the cold.



Photos courtesy of Northern Illinois Jobs Above Justice

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Fasting and outlasting:

Battle continues to wage for comprehensive immigration reform

By ALEX FORGUE

Co-Editor

With immigration reform bill stalled in the House of Representatives after being passed in the Senate, activists have launched a campaign called "Fast For Families."

The campaign was launched by civil rights and labor activists on Nov. 12 in order to urge House Speaker John Boehner to call the bi-partisan bill for a vote; the bill was passed in the Senate back in June, but has failed to make any movement in the House due to House Republicans who have stated that they will not support any legislation that allows illegal immigrants the right to become legal citizens of the United States.

Immigration reform has

become a growing issue of the past year as the 12 million Americans who are undocumented continue to live in fear of being deported back to their homelands. Many have lived in this country for years, while paying taxes and starting families.

In order to convince House Speaker John Boehner to call the bill, activists have set up camps outside the National Mall in Washington D.C. with the intent to fast until the bill is passed through the House and signed by President Obama.

Obama has not only shown support for the immigration reform bill, but met with fasting protesters in order to show his support for their cause. "I remain optimistic that we're

going to get this done. It's more of a question of when not if. But I'd rather get it done sooner rather than later because each day, obviously, it's not done makes it more difficult because we still have a system that's not working for too many people," Obama told protesters.

Many activists have campaigned on the promise of fasting for 40 days while some have shown solidarity by fasting for a day or a couple hours.

Despite their efforts, the fasting activists have failed to change the minds of John Boehner and other conservative Republicans in the House. Instead they have used delay tactics and rhetoric that clamors for a secure border before offering a pathway to citizenship.

Having a secure border has been the trigger point with which most of the delay in the GOP has stemmed from. They have argued that instead of a sweeping bill that addresses the entirety of immigration reform at once, the bill should be split up, and passed by a piecemeal process.

The first piece they would push before anything else would be to secure the border. The problem is that having a secure border as a mandate as a prerequisite for further immigration legislation is a laughable concept that is both impracticable and a waste of public dollars. Any attempt to "seal off," the border would be as effective as stopping a leaking dam with one's pointing finger.

Although Republicans have failed to be phased by the protests, activists have made it clear that they will continue their fasting campaign until the bill is passed.

This fasting campaign is not the only campaign that is ongoing in hopes for immigration reform; the past year many have faced arrests for civil disobedience in front of their state representatives offices while others have blocked the paths of busses driving illegal immigrants to prisons and back to their homelands.

Regardless of what activists do next, the fight for immigration reform is long from over.

Letter Policy

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less.

We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, email, or by dropping them off at the Blazer office at F-1009.

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Protestors taking over downtown Chicago during recent march.

Photo by Alex Forgue

Wordeater: the power of printed expression

JJC's student literary magazine still going strong after more than 40 years

By BRIDGET DRURY
Staff Writer

JJC has a diverse variety of clubs and organizations for students who wish to get involved. Word eater is one of the many scholastic clubs that JJC has to offer.

For those who are interested in creative writing and arts, the Word eater is a student magazine that publishes works from JJC students who have submitted their own poems, short stories and artworks.

Wordeater offers students the opportunity to show their talent and passion they have for writing as well as their artistic ability.

Wordeater was established over 40 years ago and continues to be one of the main organizations at JJC. Founded by John Stobart, a retired English professor at JJC, Word eater continues to give students that escape to express their creative expression.

Wordeater is a student-run biannual literary and creative arts magazine. Adam Heidenreich,

an English professor at JJC, and has been the advisor since 2008 working with students to publish issues in May and December.

Students who are English majors or simply have an interest in Fine Arts can find great benefits in writing or working for Word eater.

For those who are looking to be published and show original work to the public, they can submit your works online at Word eater.org and complete their application.

The selection process for pieces into the Word eater begins by the staff reading and looking through all the submissions. About 40-45 submissions are chosen for each book, between writings and artwork.

"Poems have been a popular trend for Word eater," says Mr. Heidenreich, "but for this fall's edition short stories have been a trend."

The student editorial decides on pieces starting the end of Oct. for the fall semester and end of March for the spring semester. The Word eater makes its premier the last Thursday of

each semester.

In 2009, Word eater launched E-zine, the online version to the student magazine. E-zine not only features articles, but music and film as well. The hard copy and the online version have different works, leaving opportunities for more students to get published.

"E-zine has been a huge success," said Mr. Heidenreich, "Schools from different countries have modeled their websites like ours." To view E-zine, simply go to word eater.org and click on the link the E-zine link.

For those who are interested in writing for the Word eater, submissions go online and files are to be uploaded in Rich Text Format.

When asked what Word eater looks for in literary submissions, Mr. Heidenreich advises "Do not write for others, write for yourself."

The latest Word eater, edition 129, will come out sometime this month. Copies of magazine are stacked around the JJC campus and Word eater submissions are currently being accepted for the fall edition.

Final exam schedule

Find the time frame for the first day your class meets in the first column to determine the scheduled time for the final exam.

Monday

7:05 a.m. - 8 a.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
8:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. - Wednesday, Dec. 18 - 7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Wednesday, Dec. 18 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
12 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
1 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. - Wednesday, Dec. 18 - 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
2 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
3 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. - Wednesday, Dec. 18 - 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 4:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
6 p.m. - 7 p.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Tuesday

7:05 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 7:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 7:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
12 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
1 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
2 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. - Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
3 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 4:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
6 p.m. - 7 p.m. - Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Wednesday

7:05 a.m. - 8 a.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
8:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. - Wednesday, Dec. 18 - 7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Wednesday, Dec. 18 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 -

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

12 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Monday, Dec. 16 - 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
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6 p.m. - 7 p.m. - Wednesday, Dec. 18 - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Thursday

7:05 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Tuesday, Dec. 17 - 7:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 7:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
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3 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 4:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
6 p.m. - 7 p.m. - Thursday, Dec. 19 - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday

6:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. - Friday, Dec. 20 - 7:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
10 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. - Friday, Dec. 20 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
12 p.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Friday, Dec. 20 - 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Friday, Dec. 20 - 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Friday, Dec. 20 - 4:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
6 p.m. - 7 p.m. - Friday, Dec. 20 - last scheduled class meeting

ALL classes that start at 7 a.m. - Friday, Dec. 20 - 7:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

ALL classes that meet on Saturday or Sunday - last scheduled class meeting

Club news

'C' is for Cooking Club

By LINDSEY CANTRELL
Staff Writer

If you are interested in getting involved with the culinary arts, but do not happen to be neighbors with Le Cordon Bleu, then JJC's Competitive Cooking Club on campus can be essentially just as fulfilling.

There are many clubs to get involved in at JJC offers, and with the Culinary Arts Department, students can participate in special events including the Annual Spring Gala, Epicurean Festival of Food and Wine Tasting, and summer International Culinary Tours.

They also receive restaurant and industry related field trips and many student competitions.

Student members are encouraged to try out for a spot on the club team where they will participate in regional and national competitions. "We had a club contest in November for all club members and other students," said Chef Kyle Richardson, club advisor. "Anyone can enter."

JJC was only the fifth American

institution to offer professional training in the culinary arts. The faculty is composed of all full-time, multi-certified chef and hospitality instructors with a combined total of more than 140 years of industry experience.

"The club functions as a part of our team," said Richardson. "We get together every Monday and Thursday for practice."

This student cooking team won first place in the American Culinary Federation's national cooking competition back in 2011, proving they are the real deal.

JJC also currently offers three baking and pastry arts certificates and expects to offer an associate's degree in baking and pastry arts in the near future. "Why pay the high fees and excessive tuition at a private school, when JJC is not only affordable, but also provides an exceptional education and real-life experience," said department chair Michael McGrail.

With that, all the hard work paid off when a student named Brooke Hockstra won first place in her first pastry competition just this year.

In the job market, JJC graduates are sought out for employment all over the world. Recruiters from companies such as Disney, Marriott Corporation and many others actively recruit our students, even before graduation.

JJC holds the spotlight on some of its most successful alumni in the field and right now they are honoring Chef Juan Ortiz. He is now the executive chef at the Royal Hawk Country Club in St. Charles, Ill., after beginning his career almost four years ago at JJC.

"This is training for one of the most exciting, fast-paced and rewarding industries out there," said McGrail.

"When a student graduates from this program, he or she can be proud to know that they have graduated from one of the most well respected and well-known culinary schools in the world."

Now with just over 3,800 culinary training schools in the United States, JJC's culinary program is still ranked among the best while changing student's lives one ingredient at a time.



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JJC Fine Arts presentation

Finding holiday cheer with *A Christmas Carol*

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

The JJC Fine Arts Department concluded their theater season by selling out all four of their Nov. 21-24 showings of the Charles Dickens classic *A Christmas Carol*, the timeless tale of one man's moral repentance on Christmas Eve during nineteenth century England. The play was directed by Tammy Perkins, and originally adapted to the stage by Michael Wilson.

Scooge was played by Former JJC student Shane Tierney played the lead role as Ebenezer Scooge. Tierney has had experience in several other stage productions proved invaluable to the show. His delivery was assertive and typified the cold and intimidating nature of the unsympathetic debt collector we come to expect from a holiday Scooge.

The play garnered a large turn-out, which was especially pleasing to Perkins because, "Anything not a musical is referred to as a 'straight' play and it's really difficult to fill those out."

Thanks to numerous film and stage adaptations, the plot of the story is well known. Ebenezer Scooge is given the chance to reverse his wicked ways as London's

most ruthless debt collector when he is visited by the ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future.

Since its first publication in 1843, *A Christmas Carol*, has gained international fame and is as every bit apart of the fabric that make up Christmas traditions to this day. As JJC's professor of Art History Gisele Atterberry wrote for the plays program, "It reminds us that Christmas is a fully appropriate time to take comfort and pleasure in the memories and presence of those we hold dear."

"I very was pleased with what everyone had done," Perkins said

of the acting. She emphasized that while the audience was only able to judge the actors' performance for that particular show, Perkins saw the progression of each cast member throughout the process.

"Seeing where they [the cast] started based on their level of experience and from where they started from, it was really good and impressive."

Perkins raved about their ability to apply a flexible and versatile approach to their acting; a skill which is especially important considering the spontaneous nature of theater, where every performance is different from the last.

"It's what theater is, each performance was different ... how you say a line affects how someone's going to respond to it depending on the delivery, and that can change the energy of it."

Production and rehearsal proved challenging for Perkins because of the large number of roles the play used. "It was a little bit of a nightmare getting rehearsals worked out with everyone's schedule ... so by the time we had opened we only had three rehearsals with everyone there."

Perkins also had five actors drop out during rehearsals, as Perkins explained "A lot of people did not know what they were getting into in terms of

commitment and just how hard it can be."

Audience members paying close attention would note the high number of actors double casted into different roles. Nine of the 26 total cast members had taken on the added responsibility of playing an additional role.

"I was really proud about how people stepped up, picked up roles and took on the added responsibility," Perkins beamed. "And it got ugly and hard, especially towards the end ... as things got really busy."

Despite the difficulties, their hard work paid off. Alyssa Vrdoljak, a longtime theater-goer in attendance praised the play by saying, "I really liked their supporting cast members. Some were really funny and I think it helped move the play along."

She especially enjoyed the performances of both Seamus Wray and Chris Walusek. Wray played Bert, a man in debt to Scooge, as well as the quick-witted Ghost of Christmas Present. Walusek, who also acted dual roles, played Jacob Marley and Mrs. Dilber, who is Scoogues housemaid, whose eccentric accent, and sarcastic disposition acted as comic relief for what can be a dark and contemplative

story.

Walusek's double casting made it especially difficult during set changes. "You don't have 30 minutes to change costumes," Perkins explained, "So during the grade school performance when he came out as Marley he still had his Mrs. Dilbert heels on!"

The performances by both Walusek and Seamus Wray as the Ghost of Christmas Present, gave comic relief to a play that, for all the holiday warmth and nostalgia it brings, can be dark at times.

After the show the audience had the opportunity to meet and take pictures with the cast outside the theater. Tierney was gracious and extremely thankful to each person who complimented him for his performance as Scooge. Walusek and Wray both stayed in character while happily posing for pictures.

Miguel Garcia, who along with playing young Scooge, also played the role of the Ghost of Christmas Future in a costume he designed and made himself. While on his knees, Garcia gently reassured and comforted two boys who found his character frightening, and then gave them each a hug.

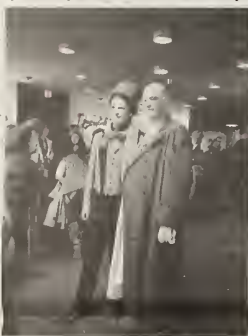


photo by Richard Maska

Shane Tierney as Scooge, and Bobby Smith, as Bob Cracht (left) at meet and greet.

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News Briefs

Fitness Center giving special offers

The JJC Fitness Center at Main Campus is offering JJC students a discounted price for an Open Access membership valid for the spring 2014 semester. Students may enroll for the price of \$25 from Jan. 13-31, after which the price will increase to \$40. Employees can receive a similar discount at \$45 from Jan. 6-17 before rates will increase to \$75.

Those interested must sign up and pay at the JJC Service Center, then present their receipt and JJC ID to the Fitness Center to receive their open access sticker.

Also, beginning in the spring 2014 semester, enrollment in HPR 101, a health and fitness class worth one credit hour, will automatically come with free access to the Fitness Center. Students can take the class up to four times, the equivalence of four transferable credit hours.

Beginning in the spring semester, the Fitness Center will be open Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Textbook purchasing and buybacks

JJC students can begin selling their textbooks back starting Thursday, Dec. 12, and will continue at various times until Dec. 20. Those interested can sell their books on weekdays at Main Campus Room A-1002, which is located near the cafeteria. Students wishing to sell their books back on Saturday Dec. 14 can do so in the Main Campus Bookstore, Room A-1012.

Buyback will be conducted at the Romeville Campus, on Wednesday, Dec. 18, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

As a special bonus, for every \$20 you receive back, JJC will issue a "Buyback Buck" which can be used on future text book purchases.

Textbooks for spring classes have been available since Dec. 2, and can be purchased at the bookstore on Main Campus Room A-1012, or online at www.jjc.edu/bookstore. Students can also obtain a complete list of the bookstore's hours of operation by visiting the link.

Stress relief from finals week

With final exams just around the corner, the pressure to perform well is being felt by every student this time of year. On Dec. 4, Holistic Wellness did its part to help JJC students unwind by offering free back and neck massages as part of their Stress Relief event, which was held on the Center Bridge.

The event was held from 11 a.m. through 1 p.m., participants were chosen on a first-come, first-served basis and students were advised to show up early for the event.

"It gives students a chance to de-stress," said staff coordinator

Amy Sims. "It's a nice end of the semester treat," she added.

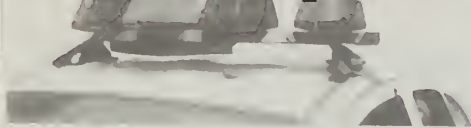
Printing @ JJC

JJC is implementing a new Student Print Solution in the open computer labs effective Jan. 6 2014. This solution, which entails scanning student IDs, will only affect printing in the open computer labs. The new locations will be on J-Building's 1st floor Student Lounge, the Cyber Café in room D-1005, Library, T-Building's CLOS Lab room T-2024, at the U-Building's Student Lounge and room U-2008 and at the Romeville Campus library.

Another feature being added is web printing. The Web Printing Service allows JJC students to print from their own device to the selected printers which are located in the open labs on campus. The web printing service is compatible with wireless networks. Students do not need to install any print drivers to use this service.

The cost of printing for black and white is 10 cents per page; color printing, which is available at the Main Campus Library, is 20 cents per page, and 20¢ for double-sided pages.

Police Reports



Charged with Delivery of 121 at 1 p.m. on Dec. 12.

JJC Police arrested and charged Akcem A. Bradford with Criminal Trespassing to State Supported Property and Delivery of Cannabis, 30 grams and under, after he was seen at a JJC basketball game on Nov. 12 at 7:14 p.m. Police said Bradford had previously been trespassing from all JJC properties and was issued an I-Bond with a scheduled court date for Dec. 11 at the Will County Court House room 305 at 1:30 p.m.

Traffic violation

James A. Vespo of Bollingbrook was arrested on Nov. 11 at 1215 Houbolt Rd., and issued a Citation for a Traffic License Plate Violation. Police said Vespo was operating a vehicle with a registration sticker that belonged to someone else. He is due at the Will County Court House room

Criminal trespassing at Centennial Commons

On Nov. 14 at 8:53 p.m., JJC Police charged Duvaan L. Coleman of Joliet with one count of criminal trespassing and two other counts of criminal trespassing. His bond was set at \$150. He has a scheduled appearance for Dec. 12 at the Will County Court House at 1:30 p.m.

Police said Coleman was seen jumping the fence at Centennial Commons and later admitted to being in A-Building after hours. He had previously been trespassing from Centennial Commons and all JJC properties.

Two-car collision

Austin J. Green of Greensboro, N.C., was issued a citation by JJC Police for his alleged involvement in a two-car collision at Centennial Commons Police

say he was driving an uninsured vehicle on Nov. 23 at 1:55 a.m. He is scheduled to appear at the Will County Court House at 1 p.m. on Dec. 11.

Three charged

JJC police arrested driver Jacob D. Taylor of Chicago after being alerted by Centennial Commons' security personnel about a suspicious vehicle parked in the lot. The incident took place on the evening of Dec. 1.

Taylor was issued a Notice of Trespass to Centennial Commons and a Regulation Ticket. Passenger Kadijah Harris, Joliet, according to police, failed to comply with Centennial Commons security requests and was also issued a ticket.

The third passenger, Vandeck McDonchicne Jr., Chicago was issued a Notice of Trespass to Centennial Commons properties.

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Reminiscing about Christmas

BY LINDSEY CANTRELL

Staff Writer

It's kind of a tradition nowadays to go a little crazy over the Thanksgiving weekend and shop on Black Friday, but after the chaos is over, a better tradition comes to us when we get to truly prepare for Christmas. With that in mind, we asked a few questions to JJC students about the season.

What is your favorite thing about Christmas?

"I love the music and the movies and everything about it. *Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer* is my favorite," said Courtney Hilt.

"Definitely Christmas lights...and decorations I guess...but mainly the lights," said Chris Manzo-Vandervoort.

"Oh the food—the ham and all the cookies—just tons of sweets everywhere," said Devan Kohn.

Do you have any favorite family Christmas traditions?



Chris Manzo-Vandervoort

"Well, one Christmas when I was little, my dad made me this Christmas book where I was like the star. It was like one of those 'I helped Santa save Christmas!' kind of stories that he got some book publisher in the mall to do. And every Christmas my sister reads it to me," said Courtney Hilt.

What is the best gift



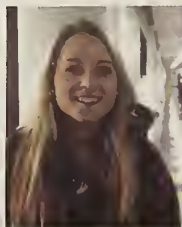
Courtney Hilt

you've ever received?

"A husky puppy from my boyfriend John!" said Brittany Eurkaitis.

What about the worst gift?

"Ooh a Shamwow. One Christmas I was joking about really wanting one, but I then I actually got it—I actually have a Shamwow," said Brittany



Brittany Eurkaitis

Eurkaitis.

Which is better over winter break: Christmas or New Years Eve?

"I'd say Christmas for sure because I get to spend it with both sides of the family, both parents on different days, instead of having to split up New Years," said Devan Kohn.



Devan Kohn

Tornado from page 1

than a minute, but I was never EVER forget those 60 seconds.

As we finally decided it safe to walk out, we slowly made our way outside to survey the damage. My bosses own the storage unit located behind Naked Sun, and the office for it, was gone and many units damaged. Our building was also damaged and will take some work.

My car was beat up, but we were alive. I still can't believe this happened. I'm in shock. I'm still terrified and my mind keeps going back to what I saw on the computer just before the power went out. I can't get the sounds out of my brain. I keep reliving the total devastation as we walked out and saw all the damage. I'm so glad we're all okay. I'm so grateful our area had no fatalities.

The tornado literally hopped over my sister's house and hopped over my work. Everything surrounding Naked Sun is completely destroyed. There is no reason Naked Sun should still be standing, but it is. I still can't believe it. Physically I'm okay. Mentally, I'm a little broken and scared. I couldn't be happier to be alive, though. I will never forget 11/17/13 as long as I live."

Megan's account, like so many others, tells a story so few could ever effectively tell. The story for the rest of Diamond and Coal City is a similar one of survival

and rebuilding.

Two days after the storm, Chicago Bears kicker Robbie Gould, cornerbacks Zack Bowman and Sherrick McManis and linebacker Blake Costanzo helped dispense food and clean-up supplies from trucks into the Red Cross shelter located at United Methodist Church. Former Bears Rashied Davis, Anthony Adams and Tom Zbikowski joined them.

Not long after that, Exelon Generation provided \$25,000 in aid to the American Red Cross to assist storm victims. Additionally, the company informed its employees that it would match their own donations. The station also organized volunteers to help out the hardest hit areas.

On Tuesday, Nov. 26, President Barack Obama answered the call of Illinois Governor Pat Quinn and the Illinois congressional delegation, declaring Will and Grundy Counties, among 13 others in Illinois, as major disaster areas, unlocking invaluable federal aid for home and businesses owners.

One such business owner is as Mohamad

Ali, owner of the Stop and Smoke Tobacco Shop in Diamond, which was left with nothing more than a partial wall still standing after the tornado passed through. As Ali told the Coal City Courier, "We're waiting for the insurance, but we're still waiting on that federal aid."

The towns of Coal City and Diamond are incredibly fortunate. No lives were lost in the EF-2

tornado that struck those towns and only four people sustained injuries in the storm, all of whom were treated and released, this according to the Village of Coal City's website.

Storm warning and siren systems gave residents and employees ample time to find shelter and take cover. It has been almost a month since the devastation occurred, but relief is

still badly needed in the heaviest hit areas.

If you want to help, please visit www.diamond.illinois.gov/tornado-information. Christian Life Assembly, which also sustained extensive damage in the storm, is also accepting donations for their own rebuilding project at www.clachurch.cloverdonations.com/tornado/.



Storage facility directly behind Naked Sun is wrecked during the tornado.

Photo by Joel Rozza

One small miracle for McCulla household

Victims move on after tornado disaster

BY BRITTNEY ANDERSEN
AND RICHARD MASKA
Staff Writers

Emily McCulla was working at McDonalds when she received a text message from her girlfriend and roommate Kat Thomas which read, "Tornadoes in the backyard, going into crawlspace. Love you." McCulla took refuge in the freezer room as the twister ripped through Diamond and Coal City on Nov. 17.

As Thomas emerged from the house she was struck to see that the storm managed to cause her roof to partially cave in, struck to, "see sky where my house's ceiling used to be." It would be hours before she reconnected with her roommate, when they both learned that the remains of her cat Zuzu had been found miles away.

Eighteen days after an EF-2 tornado ripped part of her roof off of her house of Nov. 17, Emily McCulla was celebrating her 22nd birthday when she noticed rustling underneath her couch. After flipping the furniture over she was amazed to find Zuzu, alive long after being presumed dead.

The family has no idea where the cat had been since the storm hit, but is grateful for something to smile about following the worst such weather disaster Illinois has had since a similar system hit Plainfield in 1990.

Some 20 to 30 tornadoes were estimated to have touched down, leaving eight dead and injuring

up to 200 people. Coal and Diamond City were fortunate not to have any fatalities.

Former JJC student Emily Wiecezorek was at home when the warning sirens went off. Hurdled she grabbed her dog and sat in her closet as the storm intensified outside. A brief lull convinced her it was okay to venture outside, but no sooner that she looked upward, the sky turned even darker, and the real threat was just beginning.

"Whole house was shaking, wind was whistling, rain was pouring so badly it sounded like people throwing buckets of water on the windows," said Wiecezorek afterwards, who had managed to return to the closet with her dog, "And then the power went out."

In the Coal/Diamond City area alone, ComEd estimated some 70 utility poles and ten steel electrical towers were knocked out by the storm system.

The overall storm system mainly affected areas in Illinois, and parts of Indiana and Michigan. The worst hit place was in the central Illinois town of Washington, which was practically leveled by winds that reportedly reached 200 miles an hour.

Estimates place the overall cost of damage throughout the Midwest at nearly \$1 billion dollars with over 500 homes across the Midwest experiencing damage.

Relief efforts began almost immediately as the Red Cross began filling Coal City's United



In the distance, an EF-2 tornado touches down near a subdivision on the corner of Spring and Berta Road in Diamond

Methodist Church with food and clean up supplies. Several current and former members of the Chicago Bears also paid a visit to the disaster area, offering their condolences to residents of a community still picking themselves up just two days after the tornado.

Among the group of players was linebacker Blake Costanzo who afterwards said, "It's

such a great community, with everybody helping everybody. People may have lost their homes and material things, but they're thankful to have their lives. People we talked to said, 'We lost everything, but as long as we have our friends and family, things are going to be OK.'"

With so many families are still displaced from their homes and relief efforts that are far from

being complete, McCulla can be grateful for the return of her cat. And while doesn't place the roof back onto her house, few can deny it was a much deserved present for the hardship she and her loved ones experienced.

After a veterinarian gave Zuzu a clean bill of health, a thrilled McCulla was still in disbelief and exclaimed, "It was the best birthday present ever."



Emily McCulla looks despondently at her bedroom after the tornado struck her house.



McCulla family celebrating return of Zuzu.

All Photos courtesy of Emily McCulla

Times are a-changing

Women striking back for equality in India

BY RICHARD MASKA

Co-Editor

The Uttar Pradesh region of India is one of the poorest in the world; with the traditional caste system still largely in place, the society has long been dominated by corrupt officials who take bribes, while depriving communities of grain stores. It is an area where child marriages are still prevalent and abusive husbands are allowed to continue un-reprimanded.

India is one of the most rapidly growing countries in the world economically as well as in population. Their medical facilities and practices are some of the most advanced in the world. Yet to an outsider, it is as if the modern world has passed India by, especially in a rural area such as Uttar Pradesh, where sexism and class inequality remain a part of the fabric that has come to define Indian society for hundreds of years.

It is only recently that activism against these practices has been able to manifest itself in a way that creates positive change, but it has done so in the most unlikely of ways.

The Gulabi, or Pink, Gang, is the name given to a growing group of women who have organized themselves towards ending oppression towards women, and corruption from bureaucratic officials. They derive their name from the bright pink robes the group wears, and stage vocal rallies and protests against policemen, politicians and boorish men.

Their main purpose is to end the practice of child marriage and dowry payments. The group's leader, Sampat Pal Devi, a former child bride herself, has been campaigning against the tradition even before the formation of the gang when she worked for social services.

When peaceful protest and persuasion are not enough, they resort to their weapon of choice: the lathi, a long wooden stick that is often made of hanooh, which the gang is not afraid to wield violently.

However, their real preference is to publicly shame their opposition into yielding to their demands, and have been remarkably successful at it. The group has attracted the attention

of news organizations around the world with their overt brassness and upfront demands.

Headed by their matriarchal leader, Pal Devi, the gang has demonstrated their confrontational style in a number of Indian produced documentaries, as well as features from the BBC, and SBS Dateline.

"First, we simply approach people with our requests," said Pal Devi in the Dateline special, "Please do what we ask. If that is wrong, don't do it. If it is right,

made her so popular that officials take a larger risk should they decide to simply remove her.

With some 40,000 members pledging their allegiance to the Gulabi Gang, it is clear that they are a force that is here to stay. They are leaving a unique impression on Indian society, and are proving to the world that they are capable of making positive changes, and that women in India are in charge of their own destiny.



Gulabi Gang wears pink and often trains with a lathi, a long wooden bamboo stick.

Original art by Brittney Andersen

then do what I ask."

"But those who have been dishonest and are taking bribes they are not able to help us. So, when I know that my request has not been considered, I go there once, twice ... if still they don't listen, I hit them with the lathi."

When Pal Devi gets word of a corrupt official who has been taking bribes, she wastes no time to demand from him that he must cease his laundering. As she explained to the official in question "People join the Pink Gang if they're being robbed. The more you take in, the bigger the Pink Gang gets."

While Pal Devi has placed herself inside the crosshairs of authority figures who wish to maintain the status quo, her determination and charisma has

Kicking off the New Year right

Resolutions don't have to be scary

BY LINDSEY CANTRELL

Staff Writer

New Year's Eve is one of those holidays that turn from a celebration one night to a job the next once the clock strikes midnight. This is because when the New Year comes around, we all make life-changing resolutions and attempt to keep them for the following 364 days of the year.

Generally, some of us might feel like January is the worst time of the year to make a resolution because we're just not motivated during these cold months and are longing for summertime. According to Bloomberg Businessweek, you're not alone; the best month to try to change, according to StickK's data, is in August when students are preparing to go back to school and many people are settling into new routines.

Try not to worry if your goals start to fade early in the year. There's no rule in life on when exactly the change is needed, there's just the idea that when being the best you can be, the timing is always up to you.

So, for those of you who dread this part of the holiday tradition, here are some tips just for you on how to make it great.

1. Don't just address the big battles.

Think of the smaller habits that turn into big problems when not addressed. Most of the time it's the smaller, more discreet resolutions that are most effective because they can be the building blocks in reaching overall bigger goals.

Try to be realistic and adjust any goals that may be too hard

to tackle. If you really want to do better in school this next semester, instead of putting all that extra pressure on yourself to "do better," just start small.

Maybe say, "I will wake up 20 minutes earlier this year and not be late for class once," or "I will keep my school things in a separate spot, so I don't lose anything or get discouraged when seeing the big pile of papers on the table for that test tomorrow."

2. Tell others and focus on the progress before the end goal.

If your resolution is to lose weight and exercise more, just tell people—like your family and closest friends.

When your determination starts to disappear throughout the year and you convince yourself it is probably no big deal to pass on by the McDonald's drive thru one day, someone else will be there to remind you of all the progress you would sacrifice.

Sometimes just a little support along the way is all you need. Take each step one at a time and be happy with your progress. The only way you will get to where you want to go is to complete every small step along the way and check it off your list with pride.

3. Reward yourself.

What's all this hard work good for if it just stresses you out? By taking smaller steps in making your resolutions, you are not only accomplishing your goal at a healthy pace, but also creating good habits for yourself that will last a lifetime—so be proud and have some chocolate and Champagne at the party!

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Deep Cuts: Elton John's *Tumbleweed Connection* a quiet heavyweight

BY JOEL ROZA

Staff Writer

This album is the epitome of what Deep Cuts is all about. A phenomenal and legendary artist with an album bereft of hits, singles, videos (to be fair, this was written before videos took off), and—most importantly—anything that sucks.

Now I know many of you are either too young to know who Elton John is, or even know that Elton John absolutely rocked back in the '70s. This isn't the pop sensation, with hits like, "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?" that Elton has dominated the last three decades. This is back when Elton wore big glasses, big pants, and was exactly what you think everyone looks like when you're tripping on acid.

Back in 1970, it was common for an artist to release a couple LPs in a year. In April of 1970, Elton released his self-titled sophomore album, which was a massive upgrade to his 1969 debut, *Empty Sky*.

For *Tumbleweed*, Elton partnered up with his soon-to-be longtime writing partner and lyricist, Bernie Taupin, to tackle a concept record based on country and western/Americana themes.

Produced by Gus Dudgeon, *Tumbleweed Connection* was released on October 30, 1970 to great critical applause, but it fell short in the singles department that Elton would later go on to dominate. The album peaked at #5 on the U.S. Billboard 200 chart and #2 on the UK Albums

chart, but faded soon thereafter.

Whenever an artist tackles a concept based album, it's a risk. Unlike albums that offer on various subject matters, taking a little something for everyone to relate to, a concept record is typically a strict story or theme that stays in line the whole way, catering more to the artist's interests than that of the fans.

Many concept records deal with sci-fi, satanic, or holiday themes in order to cater to appeal to as many fans as possible. When Elton went the American West route, it didn't exactly knock The Rolling Stones down a notch, but it left a lasting impact that has only grown in the following years.

Songs such as "Ballad of a Well-Known Gun," "Son of Your Father," "My Father's Gun," and "Amorecena" offer a distinct and authentic Western feel, while tracks such as "Come Down in Time," and "Love Song" offer a softer view on old Western values.

One of my favorite tracks on the record is "Where to Now, St. Peter?" It's a quirky addition to the album, not due to anything musical, but because it's a song that deals with a non-religious person who has died and embarked on a journey from Earth to... wherever.

It's not a validation of religion, nor is it an indictment of it. It's a scenario in which a non-believer is dead, embarks on a journey with St. Peter and explains that while he "may not be a Christian, but I've done all one man can."

It's a phenomenal song with powerful lyrics that, frankly, are ahead of their time. I'm not sure where it fits in the Americana theme Elton crafted the album around, but I love the song.

When the album was re-released in 1995, and again in 2001, it featured an original demo of the track "Madman Across the Water," which would go on to become the title track of Elton's next album. But this version

features a different arrangement, with Mick Ronson, of David Bowie-fame, on guitar. This song in itself is worth the price of a deluxe edition of the album.

To be fair, *Tumbleweed Connection* is not the greatest album ever, nor is it even Elton John's best album. In the lexicon of John, I'd rank it #3 behind *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road* and *Madman Across the Water*.

Still, this album has managed to swim under the radar all these years without much notice. Even classic rock aficionados of today have seemingly overlooked it, but it's still resonating today. In the US, it was certified gold in March 1971 and platinum in August 1998 by the RIAA. Rolling Stone magazine ranked it #458 on the Top 500 albums of all-time list.



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Hope you have a great holiday!
From the Blazer Staff

Best and Worst

What films stand out in 2013?

BY PATRICK O'CARROLL
Staff Writer

With 2013 coming to a close we look back at the deserving blockbusters and the miserable flops of the year. Each genre had their high and low points throughout these past 12 months.

Action

Action films were the big thing this year. Whether you break them down into hero movies or just muscle and gun flicks. One thing there was not a shortage of was good action flicks. From *The Last Stand*, which saw Arnold Schwarzenegger's return as a main character, to the much awaited sequel *Thor: The Dark World*, thrills and kills were the one thing that kept audiences in the theatres all year long.

Best: *Elysium*

This was an obvious choice by far. Starring Matt Damon, Jodie Foster and Sharlto Copley, this futuristic story depicted an isolated community for the wealthy thrived audiences. But it was the work of director Neill Blomkamp who also directed *District 9* in 2009 which elevated this sci-fi flick to the top.

Worst: *Spring Breakers*

The worst is very obvious with *Spring Breakers* starring a ridiculous looking James Franco and about five minutes of screen time with Selena

Gomez. Fittingly released during spring break, the hope was to get people into the theatres in their off time. I had nothing to do but work during my spring break, but my boredom at home was still more entertaining than seeing that film.

Comedy

With comedy we had some good side splitters as well as some dull attempts. There was the incredibly raunchy *Movie 43* which had some more refined actors being completely serious while making everyone laugh until it hurt. Then there was *21 and Over* which attempted to mix *Project X* with the undying theme associated with the craziness of a 21st birthday. A valid attempt, however the movie failed miserably.

Best: *The World's End*

Unquestionably the best comedy of the year, *The World's End* brings back everyone's favorite British tag team Simon Pegg and Nick Frost. I chose this for the best because it took the alien invasion concept and added humor by mixing it with a group of friends' pub crawl.

Worst: Tie between *Hangover Part 3* and *Grown Ups 2*

The worst was a tie between *Hangover Part 3* and *Grown Ups 2*. With *Hangover 3*, there was nothing new, it was the same thing as *Hangover 2* which was the same as the first installment.

Grown Ups 2 suffers in a similar

way except instead of identical plotlines, it's Adam Sandler's idea of humor that is unchanged.

Horror

Finally there is the other main attraction to movie goes anywhere, horror. There were not that many good horror flicks this year but alas I must choose one.

Best: *Insidious 2*

The best, or close to it at least, was *Insidious 2*. I was a big fan of the first one despite the ridiculous look of the demon, I felt that this new installment gave us all some good chills even if they were for only a moment. Plus it is always a refreshing sign when the cast stays and isn't replaced in a sequel.

Worst: Tie between *Evil Dead* and *Carrie*

The worst is yet again another tie. Not surprisingly it is a tie of the remakes of this year. Yes, you guessed it: *Evil Dead* and *Carrie* take the cake for this year's worst horror movies.

Evil Dead gets partial honors because of its attempt to be scary and not a mix of comedy like the original. Whereas *Carrie* earns the other half of the title because it did not explore new ground and stayed too close to the original with the exception of adding special effects.

Let's hope 2014 can give us some greats and stray away from the flops.

The Hunger Games wins big as a worthy sequel

BY KRISTI BEDOLLA

Staff Writer

Suzanne Collins's best-selling dystopian series is released onto the screen again with a second adaption aptly named *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*. The previous cast remains but fresh faces are also introduced into a whole new story.

As we become reacquainted with Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) and Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson) after winning the 74th annual Hunger Games, a tide is turning in the country of Panem and everyone is still in awe from the result of the last games. The next victims of the 75th Hunger Games are ready to be announced but the President has something up his sleeve.

He recalls all previous winners from the games to compete. Katniss and Peeta are chosen again and are put to the test with new opponents, a new arena, and new stakes. It's up to them and their allies from other districts to make it out of these games alive.

Director Francis Lawrence replaces Gary Ross, who directed the previous movie. Lawrence had his work cut out for him and needed to breathe new life into

the best-selling novel adaption. He did so brilliantly. The story is becoming more intense and the cinematography and direction shadow that new emotion.

One example of this new style is a scene where Katniss and Gale are out hunting and come upon a flock of turkeys. Katniss draws her bow and aims. Her eyes deceive her and she "sees" one of the tributes she killed back in the previous games. She freezes and begins panicking, believing she is back in arena.

Lawrence's acting in this scene is phenomenal, expressing emotions that are ranging from fear to nonchalance. The games have changed her character's mentality and Lawrence does the emotional scene justice.

Symbolic motifs are very prominent in the film. The image of a bird taking flight is shown as the film progresses, whether it taking the form of a gold pin or graffiti on a wall.

The image matches the mood of anticipation and agitation in the film as the people are outraged and want a change for the games. That image is what sparks the revolution in the districts of the world of Panem, where just one spark can catch fire. The film is a must see.

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Bulls repeat history in worst way

Staff Writer

Staying true to the injury trend that Chicago's teams have experienced this year with Jay Cutler and Lance Briggs of the Bears going out, the Bulls added a major injury of their own. Starting

Though the Bulls live by a strategy of good, sound defense led by defensive mastermind Tom Thibodeau, as well an efficient offense, Rose's injury may have a traumatic impact around the team.

Though the Bulls are feeling the gut punch of another season without D-Rose, there is no reason why all hope should be

Last year the team played all year without Rose and still found a way to turn in a playoff

While that kind of calibration was teased with the presence of Rose, and will be tough to duplicate as the season carries on, this is a higher quality roster that knows its capabilities without Rose on the floor. Coaches always want their star on the floor, but the Bulls have already proven that they can win without him. Title dreams are gone, but respectability is nothing to scoff at.

Bears forced to tread water

Sunday, Dec. 29: Packers (5-6-1) at Bears

Sports Editor

Despite these deficiencies, the Bears are alive at 6-6, one game behind the Lions. Josh McCown is having a hall playing with Jay Cutler's toys, and who wouldn't? While the offense is a testament to Trestman's genius (though kicking a 47-yard field goal on 2nd down in OT does not qualify as genius), it is still not enough to overcome the growing pains that the Bears suffer on D. Ultimately, that will be the Bears' undoing as the season veers into the final

This isn't a 'lost' season as many in the Windy City proclaim it to be, but it isn't a playoff season. Instead, 2013 looks to be building block as Trestina and Co. will look to a major off-season overhaul.

More questions will emerge as this season winds down. But one question can be answered now — this is no playoff team. Not yet.



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SPORTS

JJC Men's basketball dominate at 7-1



Deiondre Cunningham surveys the court as he brings up the ball.

Photo by Lindsey Cantrell

BY ELIAS ALBERT AND
JOEL ROZA

Staff Writers

The Wolves 71-65 loss to Morton College on Dec. 5 ended what was a sensational 7-0 start to the season after their most recent 61-52 victory over Kennedy-King on Tuesday, Nov. 26.

In that game, the Wolves managed to force a high amount of fouls, especially early on, which led to many free throw opportunities for the Wolves that they more often than not, converted into easy points.

Their fast break game was

effective as well with one opportunity capped off by an exciting dunk by Zoran Aresnovic who capitalized on one of the many turnovers the Wolves managed to force.

The emphasis on defense was shown by the Wolves' ability to force tough shots, which compliments the transition into their efficient, no-nonsense offense.

Of course, along with the positives of every system, there are a number of negatives to pull from the game as well. As has been the case throughout the season, the Wolves continue to lack size in the paint, which

has unfortunately led to a high volume of offensive rebounds for their opponents.

So if the Wolves need to remain dominant throughout the season, they must work to overcome their size disadvantage.

Head coach Joe Kuhn was very pleased with his team's performance against Kennedy-King. "We looked very good tonight, we played a tough opponent who you could tell really wanted a victory," Kuhn said, "but we did enough to earn a victory."

"This was a really nice win for us as we had two starters, Anthony Carroll and Todd Brown, out

with ankle sprains. I thought our defense was outstanding and was the difference in the game."

On the team's 7-0 start, Kuhn added, "We've done a good job and worked very hard so far and I hope we can keep it up."

Coach Kuhn is very enthusiastic as he should be with how well his men have played.

With players like guard Deiondre Cunningham adding plenty of production with his versatile style of driving quickly to the rim and converting with beautiful layups, while also having the skill to knock down three pointers.

Aresnovic, can not only dunk,

but is also an excellent jump shooter who, if given an open opportunity, can nail an outside jump-shot.

Justin Scanlan led the way with 19 points. Aresnovic scored 13 points, while Cunningham finished with 10 points.

The Wolves' streak also included an 84-64 blowout against Robert Morris University JV on Nov. 21, which included a double-double for Zoran Aresnovic (10 points, 11 rebounds), 13 points from Deiondre Cunningham, and 12 points from Justin Scanlan.

Their next game is away at South Suburban College on Dec. 14.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

Justin Scanlan

Sophomore Justin Scanlan scored 12 points against Robert Morris JV in an 84-64 victory on Nov. 21. He posted 19 points against Division I Kennedy-King College in a 61-52 win on Nov.

26. The Wolves were defeated in their first loss of the season on Dec. 5 to Morton College by a score of 71-65. Scanlan scored 14 points in the contest. He currently averages 11.8 points per game this season.



Alexis Oglesby

Freshman Alexis Oglesby has been productive for the Lady Wolves basketball team. She scored 9 points at McHenry County College in a 62-40 win on Nov. 19. In an 80-48 loss on Dec. 3 against Kishwaukee College, Oglesby finished with a team-high 13 points.

